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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

FOR

1914-1915.

Lahore:

PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRINTING, PUNJAB.

1916.

INTRODUCTION.

The "year" throughout this report is not invariably the financial year ending 31st March 1915. At the heading of each chapter with the exception of chapter I, a reference is given to the departmental reports which contain details of the subjects dealt with. The "year" of the present report is for each such subject the year mentioned in the title of the departmental report so referred to. In general it may be said that the "year" in chapters I, IV, V, VII, VIII and IX means the financial year ending 31st March 1915, in chapter II it is the revenue year ending 30th September 1914, and in chapters III and VI it is the calendar year ending 31st December 1914.

The Administration Report for 1911-12 was a decennial report, and as such contained many sections of permanent interest to which reference may be necessary in order to understand the working of the Administration; under the orders of the Government of India these sections are not repeated each year, but a reference is given to them in their place in the several chapters of part II of this report.

Except where otherwise stated, the Punjab in this report refers to the Punjab as at present constituted.

CONTENTS.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

	PAGE.
Changes in the Administration	i
Relations with Tributary States	iv
Frontier Affairs	*ib.*
Condition of the people	*ib.*
Administration of the land...	*ib.*
Legislative Council	vii
Protection	*ib.*
Local Self-Government	xi
Agriculture, Weather and Crops	xii
Forests	xv
Trade and Manufactures	xvi
Public Works	xviii
Irrigation	xix
Railways	*ib.*
Revenue and Expenditure	xx
Vital Statistics	xxi
Medical Relief	xxiii
Education	xxiv

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

CHAPTER I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

	PAGE.
1. Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples	1
2. Historical Summary	*ib.*
3. Form of Administration	*ib.*
4. Character of Land Tenures and System of Survey and Settlements	*ib.*
5. Civil Divisions of British Territory ...	*ib.*
6. Details of the last Census—Tribes and Language	1
7. Changes in the Administration	*ib.*
8. Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs	*ib.*
9. Condition of the people	10

CHAPTER II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

10. Realization of the Revenue	11
11. Professional Surveys	12
12. Revenue Surveys and Settlements ...	13
13. Land Records	14
14. Waste Lands and Government Estates ...	14
15. Wards' Estates	16
16. Revenue and rent-paying classes ...	*ib.*

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION.

17. Legislating Authority	19
18. Course of Legislation	*ib.*
19. Police	20
20. Criminal Justice	23
21. Prisons	24
22. Civil Justice	25
23. Registration	26
23-A. Legal Affairs of Government ...	27
24. District and Local Boards	*ib.*
25. Municipal Administration	28
26. Military (Volunteers)	30

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

	PAGE.		PAGE.
27. Agriculture	32	32 Manufactures	43
27-A. Fisheries	37	33. Trade	ib.
28. Weather and Crops	ib.	34. Buildings and Roads	46
29. Horticulture	39	34-A. Railways and Tramways	48
30. Forests	ib.	35. Irrigation	9
31. Mines and Quarries	42		

CHAPTER V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

36. Gross Revenue and Expenditure ...	55	42. Income-tax	60
37. Land Revenue	56	43. Forest Revenue	61
38. Irrigation	57	44. Provincial Revenue	ib.
39. Excise and Opium	ib.	45. Local Funds	63
40. Salt Revenue	59	46. Municipal Funds	ib.
41. Stamp Revenue	60		

CHAPTER VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

47. Details of Census	65	50. Medical Relief	68
48. Births and Deaths	ib.	51. Sanitation	70
49. Emigration and Immigration	68	52. Vaccination	72

CHAPTER VII.—INSTRUCTION.

53. General system of Public Instruction ...	75	56. Literary Societies	81
54. Education	ib.	57. Arts and Sciences	ib.
55. Literature and the Press	79		

CHAPTER VIII.—ARCHÆOLOGY.

58. Archæology 83

CHAPTER IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

59. Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction	85	61. Stationery	85
60. Ecclesiastical	ib.	62. Punjab Government Press	ib.

MAP AND DIAGRAM.

Map of the Punjab ... ... In Pocket.

E. 1
1914-15

REPORT

ON THE

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PUNJAB AND ITS DEPENDENCIES

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1914-15.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION.

Personnel.

1. Sir Michael O'Dwyer, K.C.S.I., held charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab throughout the year under report.

General.

2. Effect was given from August 1st, 1914, to the scheme for the reorganisation of the judiciary mentioned in last year's report. The entertainment of a third Temporary Additional Judge of the Chief Court was sanctioned for six months for the inspection of subordinate courts. Owing to the increase of work caused by the war it was found necessary to appoint an Additional Secretary to Government.

The Punjab and the War.

3. The outbreak of the war evoked an inspiring display of loyalty on the part of all classes. The prompt and spontaneous enthusiasm with which the Rulers of the Native States hastened to give practical proof of their devotion to the Empire, and their generous offers to place all their resources at the disposal of Government, for the common cause, were beyond all praise. Space is lacking to do full justice here to the readiness with which the larger States equipped their Imperial Service Troops and despatched them to the front wherever their services could be utilised, or to the splendid liberality with which all States, with hardly a single exception, came forward with offers of money for the relief fund, and to meet the war charges, of horses, camels, tents, motor cars, hospital appliances, in fact of everything which could help the troops in the field, relieve the wounded, and safeguard their dependants against distress and want. The war, in short, supplied the occasion of putting to the test the proverbial loyalty of the Ruling Chiefs of the Punjab, and they came out of that test with a still nobler reputation for fidelity to the King-Emperor and devotion to the cause of the Empire. The attitude of the Chiefs was only typical of the enthusiasm of the rest of the Province. In particular the decision to employ Indian troops in Europe inspired lively satisfaction. Public feeling found appropriate expression in a resolution of the Provincial Legislative Council passed on September 19th, 1914, conveying to His Majesty the King-Emperor an assurance of the staunch loyalty of the people of the Punjab and of their determination to maintain the proud martial traditions of the

action in connection with this subject falls outside the purview of the present year's report.

7. The amount contributed in the Province up to the end of March towards the Imperial and Provincial Relief Funds was Rs. 10,55,797. The Province also contributed generously to a large number of other funds of which space does not permit a record.

Relations with Tributary States.

8. The outstanding feature of the year was the outburst of loyalty displayed by the Ruling Chiefs of the Province, to which tribute has already been paid. The principal changes in the administration of the States were as follows :—The Faridkot Council of Regency was abolished, and it was decided to administer the State through a Superintendent, who has been given the assistance of a few Government officials for the purpose of reorganising the principal departments. A scheme for the improvement of the administration has been drawn up, and from experience gained so far there is every reason to hope for its success. Mr. L. French, C.I.E., I.C.S., who had, as Chief Minister, assisted the Maharaja of Kapurthala in the administration of his State during the past five years, reverted to British service. Raja Shamsher Singh of Bashahr died in August, and was succeeded by his adopted son, Mian Padam Singh.

Frontier Affairs.

9. The Bozdar and Kasrani tribes were responsible for a serious outbreak of dacoity, stimulated partly by the European War and partly by the intrigues of Sardar Faqir Khan, the younger son of the Bozdar Tumandar. The offenders were duly punished, and the Sardar sentenced to a long period of imprisonment. There were also disturbances among the Sori Lunds, in connection with the payment of batai. Otherwise the behaviour of the tribes was generally satisfactory.

Condition of the People.

10. Climatic conditions were favourable, and the autumn and spring harvests were rather above the average. Wages continued to rise, and though the fall in the price of cotton, and the dearness of the coarser food-grains in the latter half of the year made themselves felt, rural prosperity was on the whole well maintained.

The Province had a fairly healthy year, though the early winter rains brought about a recrudescence of plague, the full effect of which was not felt till after the close of the period under report. The birth-rate showed a marked improvement, and though the death-rate rose slightly, infant mortality was substantially less. Cholera was more prevalent and more severe than in 1913, and the number of deaths from fevers rose. On the other hand the mortality from small-pox was low.

Administration of the Land.

ue. 11. The total fixed and fluctuating revenue of the Province was 330 lakhs as compared with 233 lakhs in 1901-02. During the interval the amount of the fixed revenue has risen very slightly ; that of the fluctuating has owing mainly to the development of the Canal Colonies increased more than fourfold. But whereas in 1901-02 nearly

40,000 processes were required for the collection of 206 lakhs, in 1913-14 no more than 12,500 were issued to aid in the collection of a demand nearly half as high again.

The suspension of $7\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in the Ambala Division contrasted with the collection of 4 lakhs of arrears in the Rawalpindi Division reflects the diversity of weather conditions at the two different ends of the Province. Of the total fixed demand of 212 lakhs the unsuspended outstandings at the close of the year were less than Rs. 16,000. The fluctuating land revenue rose from 100 lakhs to 118 lakhs, owing partly to the resettlement of the colony areas under the fluctuating system, and partly to the reassessment of fixed land revenue which had not been brought on to the rent roll by the end of the year.

Assessments of fluctuating revenue are now being more carefully supervised, and as a rule the Settlement Officer's estimates are more closely worked up to. Collection is easy and the system is generally appreciated in the Canal colonies and the south-west of the Province, where it has been in force long enough for the people to realise its advantages.

12. The Survey Department again gave valuable assistance, and completed the Riverain Survey and the survey of the Khushab Thal. Surveys were also completed of part of the area commanded by the Upper Chenab Canal, and work is still proceeding in the Kangra District. Several minor boundary questions were settled, and an inquiry was instituted in conjunction with the United Provinces Government, preliminary to the determination of the inter-Provincial boundary along the Jumna. **Surveys.**

13. Settlement operations were in progress in ten districts during the year. The Settlement of Jullundur was commenced, whilst work in Amritsar, Hoshiarpur and Lyallpur was completed. **Settlements.**

Inquiries were recently made regarding the proportion borne by the revenue demand to the total value of the agricultural produce. In the nine most recently assessed districts in which the demand is fixed the percentage averages rather under 11·5, or about one-ninth. The settlement figures are, however, based on the commutation prices which are always fixed with a margin of safety. In only one of the nine settlements in question was the commutation price of wheat fixed at above 32 annas per maund. In the ninth, that of Amritsar, the highest rate assumed was 36 annas. It must be a long time since cultivators had to sell at such low prices as these. The rates assumed for other crops are equally cautious. It may be safely asserted that the actual prices received by the cultivator in recent years are from 25 to 50 per cent. above the rates on which the assessment is based, and it follows that in practice the share of the produce represented by the revenue demand averages considerably less than one-tenth.

14. The experiment of giving certain field kanungos power to attest mutations of undisputed inheritance has not been an unqualified success. It is said that the kanungos do not understand the limits of their powers, and that the attestation work interferes with their other duties. Final judgment on the system, which was only sanctioned as an experiment, must, however, be deferred. **Land Records.**

The state of the annual records has improved, owing to better supervision by the higher ranks. There appears, however, to be room for the introduction of a more systematic inspection of the work of kanungos, naib tahsildars, and tahsildars at least once a year.

Canal Colonies.

15. During the year under review sanction was given to the schemes for the colonization of the areas commanded by the Lower Bari Doab Canal and the Upper Jhelum Canal, and a new stage in colony history may be said to have commenced. Questions of allotment and arrangements for settling the new colonists once more came into prominence. Progress was delayed on the Lower Bari Doab owing to the damage done by the floods to the Upper Jhelum Canal Head-Works. Still 146,156 acres were allotted. The area reserved for Military grantees was increased from 103,000 to 178,000 acres in order to make more liberal provision for services in the present war, and it is believed that this measure has had considerable effect in stimulating recruiting in the Province.

A particular feature of the Lower Bari Doab Colonization scheme is the number of special grants of considerable areas for such purposes as horse breeding, cattle breeding, cotton farming and steam ploughing. The excellent start made by Captain Vanrenen on his horse breeding grant is a hopeful augury for future success. The conditions of the horse and mule breeding grants in the Jhelum and Chenab Colonies are now more carefully observed. It was only found necessary to confiscate one such grant during the year. Colonists continue to avail themselves freely of the right to purchase. In Lyallpur nearly 10,000 acres were sold by the recent purchasers. The average price was Rs. 167 per acre for land which was purchased from Government at Rs. 12-8-0 in the case of peasant, and Rs. 20-10-0 in the case of other grantees. The fact that in spite of the large profits obtainable transfers were not more frequent than they were, is strong evidence of the attractions of the colony. The re-assessments of the Chenab Colony were successfully completed during the year, and the fictitious agitation of 1913 appears to have completely subsided.

The activity of the various colony towns in providing drainage and water-supply schemes and in improving sanitation generally is creditable to them. It was decided to offer free sites in the proposed Mandis in new colony towns to persons willing to construct grain elevators.

Court of Wards.

16. Three new estates including the historic estate of Attari, were taken under the charge of the Court of Wards, and three were released in a sound financial position. The management of estates continues to be generally satisfactory. Large investments have been made in land in the new colonies, liabilities are being steadily reduced, and the accounts are in good order. The Kot Co-operative Bank has made a good start and its example might well be followed in other estates with a large body of tenants. The endeavour that is being made to associate wards with the management of their estates by employing them as Assistant Managers is an important feature of the year's work. The principal weakness in Court of Wards administration consists in the fact that an estate once released from superintendence is apt to return to its old condition, but it is hoped that the training which wards will receive

as Assistant Managers, and the knowledge which they will obtain of the principles on which the estate has been managed by the Court and freed of its liabilities, will help to overcome this defect.

17. The agricultural prosperity of the Province may be gauged to some extent by the figures of alienation. The cultivated area redeemed exceeded that mortgaged by nearly 37,000 acres. During the six years ending 1891-92 the annual excess of cultivated area mortgaged over cultivated area redeemed amounted to no less than 143,000 acres, which, put in another way, means that at that period the net area under mortgage was increasing at the rate of half a tahsil a year. The percentage of the cultivated area now held on mortgage is only $11\frac{1}{2}$. **Revenue and rent-paying classes.**

Although there were 10 districts under settlement there was a fall in the number of suits for enhancement of rent. On the other hand, proceedings against tenants-at-will for ejectment increased, but relations between landlord and tenant are on the whole friendly, and the position of the latter, already strong on account of the demand for cultivators in the colonies, will become still more favourable with the progress of the Lower Bari Doab Scheme.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

18. There were three changes among nominated members of the Council during the year. Three meetings were held. Only one Bill—a Bill to amend the Punjab Courts Act—was passed. Two resolutions, one on the subject of Beggary, and the other relating to a Government contract, were withdrawn, and two were passed, one of sympathy with His Excellency the Viceroy on the occasion of the death of Her Excellency Lady Hardinge, and the other on the war. One hundred and fifty-two questions were put and answered. Twelve Acts of the Imperial Council more particularly affecting the Province became law. **Legislation.**

PROTECTION.

19. The decrease in crime which was first noticed in 1913 has been maintained in the year under review. The returns of true cognizable crime (47,375) again exhibit a slight decrease of 501 cases and there is some ground for the belief that but for the disturbance of normal conditions created by the war, the criminal record of the Province, which seems to have reached its high water mark in the year 1912, would have shown even a more marked improvement. The most satisfactory feature of the year is the very substantial drop in murders from 625 in 1913—which is the highest figure on record—to 538. The other forms of violent crime—dacoities and robberies—show only a slight falling off, but it seems clear that, had the war not intervened and given rise to the revolutionary activities of returned emigrants and to other forms of unrest, the decrease in dacoities and robberies would have been equally marked. The Western Range and in particular the trans-Jhelum districts, where lawlessness of the worst type was rampant and authority openly flouted a few years ago, show a most marked change for the better. The police force passed through a very critical period, and the steadfastness which it has shown under trying conditions in grappling with novel and dangerous types of crime and criminals while at the same time dealing successfully with normal crime deserves ample recognition. **Police.**

Reference has already been made to the active co-operation of the people in assisting the authorities. The vital importance of enlist-

ing their aid can hardly be exaggerated, and the numerous instances in which it was effectively given demonstrate in the clearest possible way the necessity of showing prompt recognition and in suitable cases of liberally rewarding those who furnish active assistance to the police and magistracy in their efforts to cope with crime. Remissions of revenue, grants of land, monetary rewards and public commendation are forms of recognition which have been utilised with excellent results during the past year.

The preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code are more extensively used now than they were three or four years ago. It must be admitted however that these sections as they stand are not as complete and satisfactory a method of dealing with the professional criminal as they might be, and the question of a reform on lines, which, while placing this class under stricter control, will obviate the alternative of confinement in jail in default of security—an alternative apparently much more common in other Provinces than in the Punjab—is now engaging the attention of Government. An amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code with this object in view was indeed suggested to the Government of India, but possibly a more satisfactory solution may be found either in special legislation or in the application on broader lines of the Criminal Tribes Act.

The police force was substantially strengthened during the year, the increase being mainly due to the requirements of the canal colonies, the expansion of the railway town of Mughalpura and the necessity for strengthening the staff of the Criminal Investigation Department. This latter branch of the service has, owing to the revolutionary and seditious activities produced by the war, been saddled with very arduous responsibilities, and it is fortunate that it was reorganised in time to deal with the various under-currents of more than one dangerous movement. Concurrently with these measures, however, the Lieutenant-Governor sanctioned a searching enquiry into the distribution of the police throughout the Province and an officer was placed on special duty for the purpose. There is reason to believe that considerable economy can be effected by a redistribution of the force on lines which are more in accord with modern conditions, but this will be more than counterbalanced by the early necessity of increasing the pay of the lower ranks, a question which is now under the consideration of Government.

A novel feature of the year was the mobilisation of the police reserves for training and patrol purposes. This training was thoroughly organized and carried out by Mr. Mercer, Principal of the Police Training School at Phillaur, and the results were seen in the systematic patrols of the Manjha and Doaba tracts, in co-operation with military detachments, which were carried out towards the end of the year. These patrols in force did much to restore confidence in areas, which the lawless elements among the returned emigrants were attempting to terrorise.

Criminal Justice.

20. The decrease in the volume of crime coincides with improved results in the Criminal Courts. The percentage of cases resulting in conviction or compromise rose from 71 to 73, and of those resulting in conviction from 36 to 37. In murder cases convictions rose from 47 to

49 per hundred persons tried. There has been a slight fall in the percentage of successful appeals in all classes of appellate courts. The higher the class of appellate court, the smaller the chance of success.

The Reports on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Bengal and the United Provinces for the year 1913 suggest some interesting comparisons with the Punjab. It is impossible to give the full details here, but the large volume of reported crime in this Province, the low percentage of convictions, and the number of appeals seem to point to a much more reckless use of the courts in the Punjab than in the other Provinces named. The stubborn courage and the tenacity which are such admirable qualities in the Punjabi as an agriculturist, a colonist or a soldier, show him to less advantage as a persistent and often unscrupulous litigant. The striking discrepancies between the figures for the different Provinces appear to be mainly the result of differences of race and environment. These differences manifest themselves also in the relative duration of the cases in the courts of these Provinces. In Bengal the average case in a Magistrate's court is disposed of in a week. In the United Provinces it takes a day or two longer, but in the Punjab it is fought with such keenness that it takes 19 days to decide. The same phenomenon of a higher relative duration appears in the Sessions Courts and in the Chief Court of this Province.

The general conclusion appears to be warranted that in spite of the efforts made to weed out false and frivolous cases *in limine* (in the year under report no less than 31 per cent. were so dealt with), the time of the courts is still wasted to an appalling extent by false cases supported by false witnesses, the result being congestion and inordinate delay. It is difficult to accept the view put forward by some District Magistrates that this perversion of the criminal courts acts as a useful safety valve in furnishing an alternative to expensive civil litigation or to a settlement by violence, and further measures seem to be called for in order to limit this abuse.

The year's figures again give a striking illustration of the close connection that exists between duration and the percentage of convictions,—a principle that must now be accepted as axiomatic. In six districts, in which the average duration was less than 20 days, the average percentage of convictions was 40. In eight in which the average duration varied from 22 to 33 it was 31. The figures exhibit clearly the evil results of delay, and it is to be hoped that they will receive close attention from the Magistracy and the Police.

The systematic inspection of subordinate courts by a Judge of the Chief Court, specially deputed for the purpose, was undertaken for the first time in the cold weather of 1914-15 and will no doubt be productive of great benefit.

21. The year 1914 was an abnormal one in the history of the Punjab jails. The number of prisoners was unprecedented, the difficulties of management were, for a variety of reasons, exceptional, and, towards the close of the year, the expert controlling staff was for the most part withdrawn for military duty. The most marked effect of this withdrawal was to be seen in the deterioration of the general health **Prisons.**

of the Jail population, the mortality rising to nearly 25½ *per mille*, thus furnishing a reminder that the standard of administration can only be kept from slipping backwards by perpetual watchfulness and trained supervision.

The scheme for the provision of a new Central Jail at Jullundur was delayed by unexpected difficulties regarding the supply of water. Pending a decision as to the site of the Tubercular Jail, tubercular prisoners have been temporarily provided for in the old District Jail at Shahpur.

There was a drop of nearly 2,000 in the number of offences amongst prisoners in spite of a rise of over 1,300 in the daily average prison population. There is no doubt that the standard of conduct and industry amongst the inmates of our prisons has been improving steadily year by year, and though the proportion of major punishments is high as compared with other provinces with a less turbulent population, there is no cause to criticise the Punjab system adversely on this account.

The enquiry made by Sir Edward Maclagan into various questions connected with jail manufactures will, it is hoped, have valuable results. The profits of jail factories were nearly 40 per cent. in excess of those of 1913, with the satisfactory result that the average net cost per prisoner fell to Rs. 59-9-0.

Civil Justice. 22. The leading feature of the year in the administration of Civil Justice was the abandonment of the old divisional system and the introduction of District and Sessions Judges. It would appear that ultimately there will be little practical difference between the new system and the old, except in regard to administrative control. The increase in the number of superior courts has, however, produced an immediate result in the fall in the average duration of appeals from 154 to 141 days and in a slight reduction of the pending file. The duration of contested cases in courts below district courts has also fallen from 75 to 74 days. This is satisfactory as for several years past the duration has been increasing.

There has been a rise in the number of suits of about 3,500, from 191,702 to 195,266. The average for the past 12 years is about 192,000 and during five of those years the figure for 1914 has been exceeded. There is on the average one suit for every 103 of the population as compared with one for every 268 in the Province of Agra. The increase is mainly in money suits. Title suits, including suits based on a mortgage, have decreased. The pending file in the Chief Court is slightly less heavy than in some recent years, in spite of the very heavy criminal work of which the Judges had to dispose.

The working of the Insolvency Act has been subjected during the year to a careful examination and the Local Government has recently addressed the Government of India in regard to its amendment. The numbers of applications and declared insolvents have again risen, but the results of the present year show improvement in respect of the percentage of insolvents discharged, and the satisfaction

of claims. Efforts made to discourage the abuse of the Act in the colony districts have been to some extent successful. Application under the Guardians and Wards Act were fewer than in the previous years. The Chief Court's rules under the Act have been amended with the object of lessening the heavy burden which its administration imposes upon the courts of certain districts.

23. While the number of compulsory registrations increased by 3 per cent., the rise in the value of the property transferred was no less than 11 per cent., and furnishes a striking indication of the steady rise in the value of land. The admission to registration of documents contravening the Land Alienation Act is rare, but does occasionally occur. Rules have now been issued requiring the registering officer to note against the copies of such documents that the sanction of the Deputy Commissioner had not been obtained and that registration was in contravention of section 17 (2) of the Act. Benami transactions are still fairly common, especially in the west of the Province, but they are rarely discovered at the time of registration. Registration.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

24. Elections held during the year failed to evoke any great interest, only 36 out of 185 vacant seats being contested. Membership of a District Board is, however, certainly prized, and the continued re-election of old members without contest and the withdrawal before election of candidates who recognize that they have small chance of success prove not so much a lack of interest on the part of the voters or indifference to the privilege of membership of the boards as the general popular recognition that the right men have already been chosen, and that it would be unseemly to question the popular choice by forcing an election. District Boards.

The working of most of the boards is reported to be satisfactory, and though in many districts the members are said to take little interest in the actual proceedings of board meetings, it is generally acknowledged that when they are called upon individually or in sub-committees to undertake definite duties they discharge them satisfactorily. Much of the work consists of the disposal of purely routine matters governed by hard and fast rules, and in some cases the so-called apathy of members may be due to the fact that they do not always grasp what is going on and do not realise that they have power to influence the issue. Assuming this to be correct, the remedy lies in the hands of the Chairmen. The more frequent employment of standing sub-committees to dispose of routine business and to report on proposals before the board would also help to relieve the proceedings at meetings of much of their tedium and leave more time for the discussion of larger questions of greater interest.

Much useful work was, however, done by sub-committees in supervising schools, arboriculture, cattle-breeding, veterinary hospitals, dispensaries and petty works. The general question of the constitution and powers of the District Boards and the devolution of authority to local boards or sub-committees is being examined in connection with the recent resolution of the Government of India regarding local self-government.

The attention paid to education is one of the most satisfactory features of the year, and expenditure by District Boards rose by two lakhs. A start was made in a few districts with measures for the improvement of the breed of sheep and goats. Practical steps for the amelioration of the sanitary conditions of rural tracts have been taken by the imposition of conservancy taxes in two areas, and by the carrying out of several minor drainage and water-supply schemes. Though but small beginnings these may rightly be looked at as signs of progress, and as justifying the investiture of the Boards with further powers to enforce elementary rules of hygiene.

Municipalities.

25. The interest displayed in municipal elections furnishes a remarkable contrast to the state of affairs in regard to district boards. Not only were 46 per cent. of the elections contested, but the number of voters who came to the poll was also most encouraging in many instances. There is a very real spirit of progress apparent in the increasing demand for better conditions of life in towns, for improved systems of sanitation, for stricter control of food and water supplies, and generally for the amenities of modern life, though instances are not lacking to show that this is combined with an easy toleration of bad roads and insanitary surroundings which closer supervision could remedy at a small cost.

Sixty-one per cent. of the total income of municipalities, excluding loans and grants from Government, was derived from octroi. The question of the substitution of terminal taxation for octroi made some advance and it was actually introduced in one town and is under consideration in four other cases. The effect of the war on octroi was to be seen in various directions. There was a general falling off in gross receipts involving a proportionate rise in the cost of collection. In certain cases the re-export from distributing centres like Lahore and Amritsar by foreign goods merchants able to take advantage of stocks on their hands, necessitated refunds out of all proportion to the income derived from fresh imports.

The improvement of urban sanitation continues to rank in the forefront of municipal activities. The appointment of duly qualified Health Officers, paid in whole or in part by Government, and of Sanitary Inspectors, upon which Government insisted last year, has in most cases been carried out. The subject of town-planning received considerable attention during the year, and a special committee reported on the question. Its findings were, with certain modifications accepted by Government and have been circulated as the advice of a body of experts requiring due consideration when town-planning proposals are under discussion.

AGRICULTURE, WEATHER AND CROPS.

Agricultural Department.

26. During the year under report the scale of pay of the Agricultural and Research Assistants was considerably improved. The superior staff of the Department was also strengthened by the appointment of an Agricultural Engineer.

The change of syllabus at the Agricultural College and the improvement of the prospects of the students have had the desired effect, and a large increase took place in the number of applicants for admisson

to the College. Over 40 scholarships have been offered for sons of zamindars attending the short vernacular course, which is proving most successful. The College is thus providing not only for students seeking subsequent employment in the Department, but also for others who will apply the knowledge gained to their own affairs.

The results of experimental cultivation at the various stations were to a great extent vitiated by the abnormal character of the seasons. Confirmation of the view that it is uneconomical to employ artificial manures in the Punjab was, however, obtained, and the superiority of Punjab 11 wheat was again demonstrated. The experiments conducted at Narwala for the reclamation of alkali land have proved successful: the methods adopted were deep cultivation combined with surface flooding and lateral drainage, and a very fine yield of wheat was obtained from land so treated. The work of the Economic Botanist in the selection of acclimatized American cottons is a most promising feature of the Department's activities. The results achieved already are valuable, and the prices realised for cotton grown from seed distributed by the Department prove the value of the service rendered to the Punjab cultivator by the introduction of these acclimatized American varieties. The number of wells bored was not so great as in the previous year, and the percentage of successes was only slightly higher, but the report of the newly appointed Agricultural Engineer shows that the matter is receiving careful consideration, and a great improvement may be expected with the treatment of the subject on proper scientific lines. With regard to the minor activities of the Department it is satisfactory to note the progress of sericulture, and the promising start made in apiculture. The cultivation of olives, with which however the Agricultural Department is not at present concerned, is still only in an infant stage, but interesting developments may be expected if the proposals now under the consideration of Government for the lease of certain rakhs in the Jhelum and Attock Districts to a private company for olive cultivation mature.

27. The activities of the Veterinary Department are yearly more and more appreciated by the public. Each report shows an increase in the number of veterinary hospitals, patients treated, castrations performed, and inoculations effected, and of bulls, rams and donkeys issued from the Hissar Farm for breeding purposes. The new College and Hospital have now been completed, and with the large and well-equipped buildings, and the well-planned and spacious grounds now provided, the Lahore College will afford facilities for veterinary training and treatment unsurpassed in India. Excellent progress continues to be made in cattle-breeding, and the people show an increasing tendency to act on the advice of officers of the Department. Sheep-breeding is growing in popularity and the demand for three-quarter bred merino sheep is spreading. The work of the Department was to some extent hindered by the withdrawal of 27 Veterinary Assistants to military service, and by the prevalence of glanders. This disease was particularly virulent in Lahore and Amritsar, but was successfully checked by the energetic and resourceful measures taken by the Chief Superintendent and his staff. The Hissar Cattle Farm

Veterinary Department.

suffered from severe outbreaks of rinderpest and hæmorrhagic septicæmia, but the total receipts and the value of stock increased considerably. The appointment of the Camel Specialist has now been made permanent. By the cure of 98 surra-infected camels it is estimated that a saving of Rs. 13,000 was effected, as the animals would otherwise have had to be destroyed.

Fisheries.

28. The Fisheries Department has helped to draw up Fisheries Regulations for the Suket and Mandi States and has submitted proposals for licensing the fisheries in Kangra and Gurdaspur which will, in conjunction with these regulations, bring the spawning grounds of the Upper Beas under a uniform system of protection. Experiments on the scientific side have been continued with some measure of success, but this work is still in its infancy with the exception of the acclimatisation of trout in Kulu, which is a proved success. There is reason to hope that the Department will fulfil its object in conserving the supply of fresh water fish in the Province.

Co-operative Credit Societies.

29. The adverse conditions which co-operation had to face in 1913-14 were aggravated in the year under report by financial stringency arising from the war, and it is therefore not surprising that the number of societies remained practically the same as in the previous year. The Registrar and his staff were fully occupied in keeping existing societies afloat, and registration was allowed of only 70 new societies that required no financial support on being launched. The number of members has slightly decreased, and the increase of the working capital by about $7\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs only was comparatively small. It was for some reasons not undesirable that a halt should be called in the progress of the movement, pending the results of the investigation of the Committee on Co-operation, and the opportunity will now be taken for improving the organization and the financial stability of the societies in the light of the Committee's recommendations.

The cost of the societies to Government was the same as in the previous year ; but a considerable increase in the subordinate inspecting staff was made possible by the institution of a system of contributions from societies to meet the expense of audit, which received the provisional sanction of Government.

The data for the year confirm the view that the insignificance of their reserves and the low proportion of working capital contributed by the members themselves constitute a potential weakness in the position of Central Societies. These Societies were indeed able to meet their obligations, but were unable, without endangering their own financial stability, to perform the very function for which they are intended, and in a year in which primary societies had particular need of their assistance they were able to advance only 6 lakhs as against 15 lakhs in the previous year, while in the case of 5 societies Government actually had to come to their help. Measures have already been taken by the Registrar to induce Central Societies to increase their reserves, and it is to an increase of fluid resources rather than to any hope of guarantees by Government that Central Societies must look for their future financial stability. The absence of large fluid resources and of a co-ordinated system of borrowing from Central Banks was, simi-

larly, a noticeable defect in the case of agricultural primary societies; on the other hand the marked and increasing degree to which their working capital consists of the members' own money has been a great source of strength in dealing with the withdrawal of deposits.

With the exception of the weavers' societies, which were severely affected by the prevailing financial depression and the rise in the price of dyes, the non-agricultural societies are all prospering, and it is hoped that when more normal conditions are restored there will be a considerable expansion in this direction.

30. The rainfall in the Province except in the south-east dry area was above normal in February, April and May 1914, and together with an early monsoon resulted in conditions favourable for sowing. Precipitation was heavy in July and in the middle of September. On the whole the monsoon was favourably distributed. Winter disturbances appearing unusually early gave abnormally heavy rain in October and November, doing damage to cotton and autumn cereals. Heavy and widespread rain also fell in the middle of February and in the second week of March. The latter did however more harm than good to the rabi crops, of which the outturn was in many districts quite disappointing.

Crops and Prices.

31. Thanks to the favourable climatic conditions and the stimulus given by high prices owing to the war the sown and matured areas represent the high water mark reached in the Province. This is particularly noticeable in the case of wheat which benefited in addition by the contraction in the area put under cotton. The high prices obtainable for this crop did much to atone for the slump in the price of cotton and the dearness of the coarser food-grains.

FORESTS.

Forest Department.

32. During the year there was a net reduction of 76·70 miles in the area under the control of the Forest Department, due mainly to the transfer of 52,000 acres of Protected Forest in Kangra to the charge of the Deputy Commissioner. This measure was sanctioned partly in order to enable the Forest Department to concentrate attention on the more valuable forests, but chiefly with a view to associating the people themselves with the management of the forests and inducing them to realise the damage caused by excessive grazing and browsing, and so to supply the remedy themselves. The scheme for taxing buffaloes in these forests has been postponed; the tax on sheep and goats was, however, confirmed, and in the case of the latter the rate will be considerably enhanced if the desired reduction in the number of these animals is not effected within two years. The vexed and complicated question of rights in trees on uncultivated and waste lands in the Kangra District has been under examination, and the lines laid down on which the rights of Government and of private owners are to be decided. The general question of assisting natural reproduction by the adoption of more rational methods of management is receiving considerable attention, and in this respect the new working plan of the Murree and Kahuta forests marks an important advance. Thinnings are now, thanks to the provision of a better trained staff, dealt with more scientifically.

Schemes for the formation of irrigated plantations are almost complete. The principal areas comprise 19,290 acres at Khanewal, 11,680 acres at Chichawatni and 10,000 acres at Pir Mahal, and 7,500 acres in

the Gujrat District. It is expected that when fully matured the new plantations will produce a net income of about Rs. 12 lakhs.

The number of forest offences fell from 11,951 to 9,736, but the apparent improvement seems to be due to causes of an accidental or temporary nature, and was set off by a deplorable outbreak of incendiarism in the Rawalpindi and Kangra Divisions, a form of infectious madness which even the severest punitive measures are inadequate to stamp out.

The amount of timber extracted was 6 lakhs of cubic feet, and the quantity of fuel 11 million cubic feet in excess of the figures for the previous year. In the latter case, however, the increase is almost entirely due to the inclusion in the returns for the first time of fuel removed by Kangra rightholders. Recent reports indicate that departmental extraction will have to be resorted to on a larger scale, if full benefit is to be obtained from the rise in price of coniferous timbers.

The cash surplus has been growing steadily in recent years, and on the year's working amounted to Rs. 5,64,139, an increase of Rs. 1,32,360 on the previous year. The resin industry is proving a marked financial success.

TRADE AND MANUFACTURES.

Industries.

33. The number of factories subject to inspection under the Act decreased from 224 to 201. Some improvement has been effected during the year in the sanitary conditions and ventilation of factories, and the employment of women and children for excessive hours is less common than it was owing to the success which attended the prosecutions instituted by the Inspector of Factories, and the warning and advice given by him to factory managers.

Over-production in the Lancashire cotton-spinning industry, together with depression caused by the war, and the reluctance of agriculturists to part with their produce at such low rates as prevailed, resulted in the cotton-ginning factories not working at full pressure. A similar slackness was experienced by the spinning mills, which have been working short time rather than lose their operatives.

Internal trade.

34. After two prosperous years the balance of trade remained against the Province, imports exceeding exports by 3½ crores. The decline in the value of imports, despite an increase in bulk, is to be attributed to the falling off in cotton piecegoods and refined sugar, which was not compensated for by heavy imports into the south-east of the inferior food-grains. The chief decrease in exports was in cotton, rapeseed and these inferior grains.

The decline in foreign piecegoods imported was due to excessively heavy imports in 1913, which synchronized with the banking crisis. Dearness of food-grains and the low prices obtainable for the cotton crop were other contributory causes. The closure of the continental sugar exports on the outbreak of the war and the diversion of the Java sugar crops to Europe account for the refined sugar statistics. The influence of the war is still more manifest in the case of exports. The net export of wheat advanced by 16 lakhs of maunds. On the other hand, with the foreign demand cut off, exports of raw cotton declined by 20 lakhs of maunds. Owing to high prices the value of the exports of

gram and pulse rose by Rs. 30 lakhs, in spite of a decrease of 15½ lakhs of maunds in bulk.

The stoppage of the issue of sovereigns from treasuries reduced the imports of gold coin and bullion by Rs. 161½ lakhs. Imports of silver coin, however, rose by no less than Rs. 527 lakhs, owing to free encashment of notes at treasuries and abnormal withdrawals of saving bank deposits in the excitement of the early days of the war.

35. The total exports and imports both dropped by about 9½ thousand maunds in weight. The decline in value was Rs. 3½ lakhs in the case of the former and Rs. 2½ lakhs in the case of the latter. The trade with Central Asia registered at Leh is chiefly responsible for these differences. **External trade.**

In imports from Afghanistan the heaviest fall was in fruit and vegetables, ascribed to an unfavourable season in that country. The import of wool has practically ceased owing to the prohibition enforced by H. M. the Amir. The export of rice fell off by over 4,500 maunds owing to high prices of food-grains in India.

There was a decrease of 500 maunds in the amount of charas imported from Central Asia and of Rs. 2 lakhs in its value, owing to the inferiority of its quality and accumulation of stocks in the Punjab. Raw silk imports suffered from the poor quality of the Khotan crop. The general contraction of trade passing through Ladakh seems to be due to the fact that it waxes and wanes in alternate years, because traders make the double journey from the Punjab to Chinese Turkistan and back every second year. The principal men, either by design or coincidence, are generally to be found moving in the same direction in the same year. In the twelve months under review no well-known Hoshiarpur trader was on the road. Owing to the closure in August of the Russian Bank at Kashgar, traders were deprived of their usual means of making remittances, and were compelled to invest instead in charas and raw silk, unprofitable though the investments proved.

The most noteworthy point about the trade with Chinese Tibet was a drop of nearly Rs. 1 lakh in the value of wool imported, the cause of which is obscure. The rise of 18 per cent. in the value of exports is chiefly due to increased export of more expensive manufactured articles, such as brass and copper, cotton and woollen goods, &c.

36. Apart from the financial stringency created by the war, the effects of the banking crisis of 1913 were still making themselves felt in the succeeding year. Only 6 new companies were registered, while no less than 52 collapsed. There were in addition 15 other companies which were at a standstill, but had not by the close of the year sent official intimation of their liquidation. A further cause which must not be left out of account is the working of the new Companies Act which, *inter alia*, put a stop to the farcical and highly pernicious system of reciprocal audit. The failure of so many companies is no doubt a serious blow to the industrial development of the Province, and for some time to come the course and extent of investments may be affected, but in the long run the present losses may prove to have been most beneficial and will clear the way for the growth of sounder companies under more able **Joint Stock Companies.**

management. It is interesting to note, however, that while one-third of the companies limited by shares had to suspend business, not a single company limited by guarantee came to grief during this period.

It may safely be affirmed that the new Act has had a most wholesome effect. As regards audit, the full benefit has not yet been obtained, as it was thought inexpedient to interfere with appointments made for the year under report prior to the 1st April 1914. But even so a great improvement in the quality of the work is manifest and shareholders have now a fair opportunity of ascertaining the true position of affairs.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Department.

37. Liberal grants from Provincial Revenues were again made as in last year for public works, and the total expenditure though less than in 1913-14 was higher than in any previous year. The outlay on Imperial Military and Civil Works was considerably less than the average, and on the other hand the expenditure on Provincial Civil Works was the highest yet recorded.

Many large and handsome buildings have been erected in the Province chiefly at Lahore, and Police and Education again account for a large amount of the expenditure. Improved quarters for officials of the former department, chiefly for Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, have been built at most of the district head-quarters, and large new High Schools of improved design, affording ample light and ventilation, have been constructed with boarding-houses attached at several places or are in course of erection.

Many improvements have been made in the main lines of communication chiefly in the matter of providing bridges over the large streams, and now out of the five Punjab rivers all except one, the Chenab, are provided with bridges for road traffic. Communication by road with the United Provinces will also be improved when the conversion of the old railway bridge over the Jumna near Saharanpur into a road bridge, the cost of which is to be shared between the two Governments, now being carried out by the Public Works Department of the United Provinces, is completed. Minor improvements have also been effected and arrangements made with the North-Western Railway for conveyance of stone metal at greatly reduced rates, so that it is probable stone will shortly replace kunkar,—which in many places is difficult to obtain and inferior in quality,—and give more lasting and durable roads.

The most important sanitary work in hand during the past year has been the Water Works at Sialkot,—the first town it is believed where tube wells are relied on as the source of supply,—but many minor town Water Works and Drainage Schemes have been carried out.

Work has been retarded to a certain extent owing to the difficulty and enhanced cost of obtaining material of European manufacture, and the influence of the War is also felt in the personnel, as 8 out of a total strength of 24 Imperial Executive and Assistant Engineers have been transferred to military duty.

IRRIGATION.

38. The direct receipts and expenditure of the Irrigation Department during the year were Rs. 2,54,30,527 and Rs. 1,77,54,953 respectively. Working expenses were about one crore. The total area irrigated was 8,963,041 acres, the highest on record, of which 543,155 were in Native States The profit for the year earned by Productive Major Works based on the total income, direct and indirect, but excluding interest on capital outlay, was 252 lakhs, as compared with 259 lakhs in 1913, representing a percentage on the capital outlay of 14·70 per cent The profit after paying interest charges was 11·35 per cent. The gross Imperial capital now invested in the Punjab Major Canals is over £15 millions sterling. **Irrigation Department.**

Construction work on the Triple Project drew nearly to a close. The Upper Chenab Canal was formally opened in 1912, but further construction was necessary and it was not until the year under report that the tail reach of the canal was finally completed and water passed into the Ravi at Balloki. The Lower Bari Doab Canal, opened in 1913, is, like the Upper Chenab, dependent for most of its supply on the Upper Jhelum Canal. Satisfactory progress was made during the year on the latter. A serious breach, which occurred in April, was quickly repaired, and a great advance was made with the head regulator and the difficult Mangla Cut.

The principal new projects under consideration during the year were the Naila Dam Scheme for conserving the waters of the Sutlej, the Sutlej Valley Project for utilizing the surplus water of that river, and the Haveli Weir Project for improving the semi-perennial canals of the Sidhnai series and the inundation canals of the Multan District, together with the irrigation of a large area in Jhang.

A special Drainage Division was also formed in March 1914 to investigate the complicated problems connected with closed drainages in the Karnal District, a question which has defied solution for the last 50 years. The experience gained on canals in other parts of the province shows that any project which excludes from its scope the improvement and upkeep of the entire drainage system within and on the outskirts of its irrigation limits is deficient in one of its essential aspects.

RAILWAYS.

39. The length of open line on the North-Western Railway at the close of the year 1914-15 was 5,329 miles, and 158 miles were under construction or sanctioned for construction The total capital outlay on the system now amounts to well over £ 60 millions sterling. The net earnings during 1914-15, in spite of the adverse conditions created by the war, amounted to over 3½ crores, giving a percentage of 3·78 on the capital. Some idea of the extent of the operations of this railway may be obtained from the fact that the total train mileage for the year was over 22 millions. **North-Western Railway.**

Progress was made with an important scheme for reorganising the Traffic Department, which will now be split up into two sections, a Transportation Department, to deal with transportation and passenger traffic, and a Commercial Department, to deal with the commercial side

of traffic, including rates and claims. The specialisation thus rendered possible will conduce not only to greater efficiency in the actual handling of traffic, but will also exercise, it is hoped, a very beneficial effect on the commercial development of the Province.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

General. 40. The revenue raised in the Province amounted to Rs. 8,89,69,000 or Rs. 18,55,000 more than in the previous year. The increase is principally under the head of 'Land Revenue' ($15\frac{1}{8}$ lakhs) due in the main to increased sale-proceeds of waste lands, and 'Salt' ($8\frac{2}{5}$ lakhs), the sale of which rose by nearly 21 per cent. 'Miscellaneous,' 'Irrigation—Major Works' and 'Stamps' show decreases of rather less than 2 lakhs each.

The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 6,17,67,000 or Rs. 30,73,000 more than in 1913-14. This is mainly due to an increase of $14\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs under the head of 'Medical' accounted for by large grants to the King Edward Memorial Scheme and the Simla Municipality, and to the debiting to this head, instead of to Civil Works of the grants to local bodies for sanitary works, and also to a rise of nearly 10 lakhs under 'Irrigation—Major Works,' chiefly on the Upper Chenab and Lower Bari Doab Canals. There were also increases of $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs under 'Law and Justice—Courts of Law' and $3\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs under 'Police.' On the other hand, there was a decrease of 6 lakhs under 'Civil Works' and nearly 3 lakhs under 'Education.'

Excise. 41. The Punjab Excise Act, which came into effect on the 1st of February 1914, has been in force throughout the year under review, but, though the courts, with certain exceptions, have made use of the enhanced powers conferred on them by the Act the whole period was practically taken up in framing rules and re-issuing notifications (particularly those relating to the working of breweries and distilleries and the grant of licenses) enforcing it.

The salient features of the year are a general rise in the retail prices of all excisable articles; a general decrease in consumption, considerable in the case of liquor and small in that of opium and intoxicating drugs; a slight reduction in the number of licenses; and a stationary revenue. The first two results are attributable chiefly to the influence of the war and, to a lesser degree, to the institution, during the cold weather, of an organised campaign against illicit distillation and smuggling in some of the central districts where the evil was believed to be extremely prevalent.

The total revenue brought to account during the year was Rs. 69,21,091, an increase of Rs. 7,000 on that of the year previous. The increase of Rs. 1,80,268 in the income from license fees, fixed some months before the war and which amounted to Rs. 21,15,828 against Rs. 19,35,556 in 1913-14, was more than counterbalanced by a considerable drop of Rs. 3,19,250 in the receipts from still-head duty, and the decrease in the issues of country spirit from 517,516 gallons in 1913-14 to 455,419 gallons in the current year.

The consumption of liquor, which within the Province shows a falling off of no less than 9 per cent., decreased in direct consequence

of the high prices of food stuffs and the increased cost of liquor, the effects of the war. An appreciable rise in the price of *gur* and molasses and the cessation in the rate-cutting contest between distillers led to an increase in wholesale prices to meet which, and also to cover themselves against loss on their enhanced vend license fees, retail-vendors put up their prices considerably. The discontinuance of the grant of special licenses for retail vend at certain fairs in some districts and the closing of liquor shops during others should tend to diminish the temptations to excesses at religious and festive gatherings. The number of retail licenses for the sale of country spirits which were reduced in 1913-14 to 766 has in the present year been brought down to 748; this is no more than one to every 133 square miles of territory and 26,000 of population, and is lower, relatively to area and population, than in any other part of India.

There was a decrease of about 4,000 seers in the recorded consumption of opium of all kinds during the year; that of *charas* and *bhang* also fell, the former by about 100 seers and the latter by some 3,000 seers. Though the licenses for sale of cocaine fell from 64 to 54, there was an increase of 267 grains in the sales to the public in the Lahore and Simla Districts. The excise staff have met with considerable success in detecting smuggling, but these results confirm the opinion that illicit trade in cocaine is prevalent in a great part of the Province.

42. The collections on account of this year's assessment rose from Rs. 16,80 to Rs. 17,48 thousands, an increase of 4 per cent. This is less than half the rate of increase in the preceding triennium, and reflects the adverse conditions of the year 1913-14, a period of less than normal agricultural prosperity, which was marked, in addition, by a series of commercial failures. If Banking and Insurance companies have decreased in consequence, the financial crisis has not been without its beneficial results in the stimulus given to industrial concerns, which have more than doubled in number, and were responsible for an almost similar increase in assessment. **Income tax.**

A matter which appears to have been somewhat neglected hitherto is the realisation of income tax on the interest of securities other than securities of the Government of India: steps are now being taken to remedy this. The group system of assessment was given a trial in several districts, but without any very pronounced success. It is too early, however, to condemn it as a failure. Proposals are being made for the extension of the system of special assessment in the larger towns. There is much to be said for the employment of an expert agency capable of working on broader and more scientific lines than the ordinary district staff.

43. Stamp revenue decreased by 1·86 lakhs, chiefly on account of the war and the late banking crisis. Among the subjects which received special attention during the year were the checking by Excise Inspectors of stamp-vendor's registers, and the devising of measures to prevent insufficient stamping of documents. **Stamps.**

VITAL STATISTICS.

44. The Province was again fortunate in having a healthy year, though the slight excess of rainfall during the monsoon and the early **Public Health.**

commencement of the winter rains rendered conditions favourable for flea breeding, and led to a recrudescence of plague, the full effect of which was not experienced till after the close of the year. Until the outbreak of the war the prices of food-grains were not abnormally high, and they remained at a reasonable level till September. At the end of that month, however, the increased demand from Europe, coupled with the depletion of stocks in the Punjab, caused a sharp rise, and at the end of November the retail price of wheat at Lahore was 8 seers per rupee.

There was a further very satisfactory rise in the birth rate which amounted to 46·3 on the figures of the 1911 census and to 43·8 on those figures when modified by the addition of births and subtraction of deaths. The rise in the birth rate in 1914 is to be attributed largely to the comparative immunity of the province since 1908 from severe malaria epidemics, and the consequent greater healthiness of the child-bearing population. The death rate of the province rose slightly from 30·2 to 32·0 *per mille*, and was 0·9 in excess of the quinquennial average. It is, however, gratifying to note that infant mortality was substantially less than last year, there being a decrease of 8·63 in the case of males and 4·75 in that of females.

Cholera was both more widespread and more severe than in the previous year, and accounted for 3,993 deaths in rural circles and 2,663 in towns. Every effort was made to deal with the disease, but prompt action is rendered difficult by the frequent delays in the reporting of first cases. New rules on this subject have recently been framed making the village watchman responsible for the immediate report to the nearest thana of the first case of cholera in his beat, whilst the lambardar will at the same time report at once to the nearest dispensary, so that immediate measures may be taken by the medical officer in charge.

Mortality from small-pox was low, only 2,900 deaths occurring from this disease, but, owing probably to the heavy rain in September, the number of deaths from "fevers" rose again from 331,698 to 345,501, representing a death rate of 17·87 *per mille*, more than half the total provincial death rate. No great value can, however, be attached to the figures, as in common parlance the term "fever" is used frequently to cover cases of death from ordinary causes and cases for which no convenient explanation is readily forthcoming.

Plague was considerably more severe than in the two preceding years, and more deaths from this disease occurred in the month of April alone than in the whole of the year 1913. The legacy left over to the year 1915, in consequence of the monsoon conditions of 1914 being so favourable to the disease, is clear from the following figures showing the mortality from plague in the first four months of 1915 :— January 15,559, February 29,357, March 55,637, April 88,403. The city of Rawalpindi is said to be responsible for the dissemination of plague through the north-west of the Province, and it is to be hoped that the municipal committee will do their best to remove this stigma on their administration. Plague is a disease of the home, and its prevention, which is largely a matter of keeping the house clean, depends mainly on the women. The ultimate solution of the plague problem seems to be the

education of women in domestic hygiene, and efforts are being made in this direction by the Chief Plague Medical Officer.

45. Continued activity has been shown in the direction of sanitary reform, to which a stimulus has been given by the recent resolution of the Government of India and those of the Local Government. The greater part of the measures suggested by the Government of India are still under consideration, but in accordance with their recommendation the authority of the Sanitary Board has already been increased, power having been delegated to the Board to give administrative sanction to all sanitary projects, the estimated cost of which does not exceed one lakh. Sanitation.

The actual sums distributed by the Sanitary Board amounted to Rs. 2,17,791 out of the urban and Rs. 9,564 of the rural grant. In addition direct grants were given by Government in aid of various urban schemes amounting to Rs. 3,11,859. The disparity indicated above between the amount of grants for urban and rural schemes is partly due to the fact that it has been ruled that in ordinary circumstances the contribution from general revenues to sanitary projects shall be limited to half the cost of each work, and that the balance must be provided from local sources. In towns the advantages of sanitary reforms are being increasingly recognized by the citizens, and they are more ready to contribute their share of the cost. Government is, moreover, ready to assist them, as far as funds are available, with loans at a low rate of interest. In villages the need for reform is not so generally felt and local taxation is unpopular, while the District Boards have many other claims on their resources. Measures are now under consideration for placing the finances of District Boards on a more satisfactory footing, and it is hoped that they will soon be in a position to devote as much attention to the improvement of the sanitary surroundings of the rural population as to other objects under their control. But no rapid progress can be expected until the villagers have learnt to appreciate the value of sanitation.

MEDICAL RELIEF.

46. The number of dispensaries in the province was 467, an increase of one. The total expenditure on dispensaries rose from Rs. 12,89,385 to Rs. 13,66,404, the increase being mainly under the heads of establishment and medicines, and it is satisfactory to note that the contributions from Government, municipalities and local bodies all show an increase. The heavy calls made on the public by the war account for a slight drop in private subscriptions. The number of dispensaries is, however, still inadequate in many districts, and enquiries are being made as to the possibility of increasing their number. Dispensaries.

Owing to the prevalence of plague and malaria the number of patients treated rose from 4,591,177 to 4,867,385, of whom 4,778,611 were out-patients. As usual the largest number of patients requiring treatment are those suffering from diseases of the eye. Patients of this class form roughly one-third of the indoor and one-fifth of the outdoor patients. Operative surgery continues to flourish, and both in selected and other operations the figures for the year exhibit a substantial increase.

A satisfactory feature of the returns is the increase in the female attendance at dispensaries both as indoor and outdoor patients. This increase in popularity is general and not confined to any particular class of the community. The best guarantee of a continuance of this satisfactory condition of affairs lies in continued attention to the important matter of the separate treatment of men and women in dispensaries. Most of the separate hospitals for women are maintained by missionary bodies with the assistance of grants-in-aid. A number of local fund hospitals, however, have female Sub-Assistant Surgeons for the treatment of female patients, and it is hoped that in future more women educated at the Women's School of Medicine, Ludhiana, will be available for this work. The present uncertainty of employment and prospects, however, discourage recruitment among women for the medical profession. Some improvement may be effected by the constitution of the women's medical service in India under the auspices of the Dufferin Fund Committee, but it is probable that the next material step in advance lies either in the creation of direct service for women under Government or in the exercise of control by Government over local bodies in respect of the appointment and dismissal of female subassistant surgeons entering their service.

The number of medical officers available for civil duty was greatly reduced owing to the demand for officers for military duty, but the Department continued to carry out its duties with zeal and efficiency.

EDUCATION.

General.

47. A marked advance has been made by education in the Province during the year, and the number of scholars and pupils increased to 445,909, but if a wider survey of educational progress be taken, and comparison be made with the position 10 years ago, the striking fact emerges that the numbers under instruction have risen by 66 per cent. during that period. The proportion of boys of school-going age who receive instruction has in the same period increased from less than 15 to over 23 per cent. and that of girls from 2·3 to 4·8 per cent. There is no doubt much still to be done, but the above figures show clearly enough the immense improvement in the position of education in the Punjab.

Expenditure.

48. This change has involved a large increase in the expenditure of public money on educational needs, and the total sum so expended has risen by over 125 per cent. during the same term of years, *viz.*, from 31·46 lakhs in 1905-06 to 71·24 lakhs in 1914-15. The provision of new or improved buildings must continue for some time to be one of the main objects of expenditure, and a noticeable feature of the year's history is the considerable increase—one of over 7 lakhs—in such expenditure. Besides the new Biological Laboratory at the Government College, Lahore, completed at a cost of nearly 2 lakhs, there were no less than 475 school buildings erected or in course of erection during the year. In the case of secondary schools there is a steady improvement in the buildings and hostel accommodation not only of Government but of aided institutions. It is to be feared, however, that in the case of primary schools the type of building selected is not

always the most economical or most suitable, and it is time that some simple standard form of building was devised for the guidance of local bodies in rural areas.

49. The returns showing the number and qualifications of teachers do not go back before 1911-12, but they show that in the four years which have passed since then the number of teachers maintained has risen from 10,856 to 14,356, and much has been done to improve their quality, the percentage of trained teachers having in the interval risen from 46 to 52, and the number of teachers with degrees from 490 to 676. The demand for training is now intense, and the number of candidates for admission to training institutions of all classes far exceeds the facilities available. The defects of the existing system of training are realized by the Department, and there are signs that the tone maintained in the teaching institutions is improving, and that the profession of teaching is now securing, if not the same, at least something approaching the estimation and the dignity attached to it in more advanced countries. The teachers themselves are approaching their duties with a greater sense of their responsibilities, but the average teacher, both in primary and in secondary institutions, still falls considerably short of the ideal, and while over half the teachers in the former and over one-third in the latter remain untrained it is obvious that the system of instruction must continue to be seriously defective. **Teaching Staff.**

50. It is in the secondary institutions, however, that the defects of the present class of teachers are most felt. The constant increase in the number of the institutions and the further demand for secondary education are most gratifying. The dangers of too rapid development are, however, fully appreciated by Government, and while they are partly a consequence of the educational system, they are also largely connected with the inability to procure a sufficient number of masters of the standard required : men who will place the general interests of their schools before those of the matriculation class, who, by resisting the migratory propensities of their assistants and their pupils, will ensure for their schools a corporate and individual character, and who by strict discipline and the maintenance of high standards will prevent their institutions from degenerating into mere teaching machines. **Secondary Education.**

51. The Government College completed its fiftieth year of existence during the year under review, and that institution is to be congratulated on its record of half a century of valuable and distinguished work. In the history of professional and technical institutions the three most prominent features of the year are the completion of the new buildings of the Veterinary College, already described elsewhere, the inauguration of a new system of instruction in the Agricultural College, and the unfortunate troubles at the Lahore Medical School. The Agricultural College has introduced a four-years' course in two parts, and with this salutary change previous difficulties in recruiting students have now disappeared. The complaints of students at the Medical School were the subject of investigation by a special committee, and after due enquiry it was found necessary to strike off the names of 90 students for insubordination. **Collegiate Education.**

52. An Advisory Committee on industrial and technical education has recently been constituted, and it is to be hoped that it will be able **Technical Education.**

to define more precisely than is at present the case the objects at which industrial education in this Province should aim. The curriculum in schools of this class is often too minutely sub-divided, with a resulting waste of teaching power.

Female Education.

53. The number of girls at school is now 64,815 or more than double the figures in 1905-06. The number of girls' schools increased during the year from 831 to 919, and while the demand for higher female education still continues strong, the importance of primary and infant teaching has not been neglected.

European Education.

54. The European Schools of the Punjab are steadily improving and playing their part well in the present crisis. They are well represented in the various ranks of the army, and not a few *ex*-pupils have already fallen.

Muhammadan Education.

55. The whole question of improving Muhammadan education has been recently under discussion in consultation with the leaders of the community, and the matter is still under the consideration of Government.

Literature and the Press.

56. The number of books registered rose to 2,221, the highest on record. The increase in output was not, however, accompanied by any corresponding improvement in literary quality. Verse, as usual, took the leading place. It is chiefly used as a medium for advice on matters social, moral and economical. After poetry, religion forms the subject of the largest number of publications. Religious controversy, it is to be regretted, shows no signs of abatement. The novel is being employed increasingly to express social evils. The popularity of biography is growing and progress in history was marked by three or four books of real merit.

The number of newspapers and periodicals in existence at the close of the year was 224 or 35 more than at the beginning. The war brought about a large extension of newspaper circulation towards the end of the year, and became naturally the main topic of discussion. Controversial subjects were at once dropped, and prompt assurances given of India's fidelity to the Throne. Great enthusiasm was expressed at the decision to employ Indian troops in Europe. The executive orders, which became necessary on the outbreak of the war, were on the whole well received as being inevitable, though criticised by some as hardly called for in view of the loyalty shown by all classes. Apart from one or two cases of the circulation of sensational rumours, which necessitated action under the Press Act, the general attitude of the Press towards the war was satisfactory. Other subjects, which at one time or another took a more or less prominent place, were Gurdit Singh's unfortunate enterprise undertaken in order to test the validity of the Canadian Immigration Laws, the Contempt Bill, and the strike at the Lahore Medical College, the Hindu University scheme, the Public Services Commission and the Secretary of State's Council. A controversy between the Aryas and the Sikhs on the question of *niyog* led to a certain amount of obscene writing calling for official warnings.

The securities of three presses, the *Zamindar* Press, Lahore, the *Khalsa* Press, Lyallpur, and the *Loyal Gazette* Press, Lahore, were forfeited, and warnings issued on various grounds to fourteen other newspapers.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

1.—Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples.

(See pages 1—16 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

2.—Historical Summary.

(See pages 16—30 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

3.—Form of Administration.

(See pages 30—48 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

4.—Character of Land Tenures and System of Survey and Settlements.

(See pages 48—58 of the report for the year 1911-12 and the Punjab Settlement Manual.)

5.—Civil Divisions of British Territory.

(See pages 59—62 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

6.—Details of the last Census—Tribes and Language.

(See pages 62—71 of the report for the year 1911-12.)

7.—Changes in the Administration.

1. Sir Michael O'Dwyer, K.C.S.I., held charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab throughout the year under report. **Personnel.**

2. The scheme for the reorganisation of the Civil Courts of the Province and their assimilation to the system in force in the Regulation Provinces came into effect on August 1, 1914. Another matter affecting the judicial administration was the appointment of a third Temporary Additional Judge of the Chief Court for six months of the cold weather, in order to enable a more systematic inspection of subordinate courts to be undertaken. The outbreak of the war necessitated the strengthening of the Secretariat, and an officer was placed on special duty for this purpose in September, and is now entitled Additional Secretary to Government. **General.**

8.—Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

I.—PHULKIAN STATES.

3. Lieutenant-Colonel B. E. M. Gurdon, C.I.E., D.S.O., remained Political Agent of the Phulkian States throughout the year.

PATIALA.

Area, 5,412 square miles; population, 1,407,659; approximate revenue, Rs. 90 lakhs; army and police, 5,267; Chief, Sir Bhupendra Singh, G.C.I.E., Sidhu Jat; aged 24; has a male heir; title, Maharaja; salute, 17 guns.

4. His Highness the Maharaja enjoyed excellent health till October 1914 when he was attacked by an acute form of nephritis while on his way to the front in France with General Remington's staff. It weakened him considerably, but he has now quite recovered and is looking well and strong. His Highness spent a part of the summer in Chail, leaving only when it was necessary for him to make preparations for his departure for the front. **Personal.**

5. On the declaration of war with Germany, His Highness most patriotically placed his individual services and all the resources of his State unreservedly at the disposal of His Majesty the King Emperor. The Lieutenant-Governor telegraphed to His Highness as follows:—"Much appreciate your Highness' patriotic offer to place your troops, your resources and yourself at the disposal of the Empire at this crisis. Your Highness' offer, which I have transmitted to the Government of India, is in every way worthy of the high traditions of the Patiala State." This offer, among the first in India, was a wholly spontaneous one on the part of the Maharaja. The Government of India decided to utilise the services **The War.**

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

of the Rajindar Sikhs (Infantry) and the Rajindar Lancers at the front. His Highness pressed to be allowed to serve personally and Government agreed. His Majesty the King Emperor was graciously pleased to appoint His Highness an Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army. As it was not known for what length of time His Highness might be absent from his State, arrangements were made, with the approval of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, for the carrying on of the administration. His Highness gave full authority to his Secretaries to deal with all but really important cases, which were to be held over till he could himself attend to them. The Political Agent was to be consulted on all points of any importance before final orders were passed. His Highness sailed from Bombay on the 16th October 1914, but the attack of nephritis, referred to above, prevented his going to Europe, and he was put ashore at Aden and returned to India under medical advice. The State Imperial Service Lancers and 8 companies of Imperial Service Infantry sailed for Egypt in October 1914.

6. His Highness, in conjunction with other Ruling Chiefs of India, has subscribed to the movement for providing the Hospital Ship "Loyalty." The State has given material help in the matter of the supply of recruits to the Indian Army. His Highness made a tour of his State in January and the early part of February for this purpose, and succeeded in obtaining 353 men, of whom 211 have been accepted by the Military authorities. With a view to co-operation with Government, His Highness issued notifications on the lines of the following Ordinances of the Government of India: Ordinances Nos. I, V and VI of 1914, and the Foreigners' Ordinance, 1914.

Irrigation.

7. The area irrigated by canals in 1914-15 was as follows:—

			Revenue.
Sirhind Canal	Acres.	379,215	Rs. 16,60,462
Sirsa Branch, Western Jumna Canal	"	69,812	" 2,81,909
Banur and Inundation Canals ...	"	7,162	" 15,096
Total area and revenue ...	"	456,189	" 19,57,467

8. There was a good and opportune rainfall throughout the greater part of the year. The demand for water in the early part of the kharif was rather small, but more water was taken during the latter part of August and the beginning of September, and the result has been, on the whole, good. The kharif irrigation exceeded that of all previous years. Throughout the rabi the rains were good and there was a very small demand for canal water. The question of the distribution of the Ghaggar river water, at the head of the Banur Canal, regarding which the Darbar complained last year, has not yet been settled. The Choa Branch of the Karhali Rajbaha of the Sirhind Canal has been completed and has been opened for irrigation during kharif 1972. All the canals were properly maintained.

Crops.

9. The rabi crops were sown in time, but the yield was less than was expected for want of rain. Again, owing to heavy rains at threshing time, the corn was reported to have been seriously damaged in some parts of the State. The sowing of the kharif commenced betimes, but owing to excessive rainfall the outturn was restricted, and did not come up to expectations.

The total area under cultivation was 4,084,973 acres and the produce amounted to 38,302,817 maunds. There was a scarcity of fodder during the rabi, but fodder was plentiful later in the year.

JIND.

Area, 1,259 square miles; population, 271,728; approximate revenue, Rs. 22 lakhs; army and police, 1,716; Chief, Sir Ranbir Singh, K.C.S.I., Sidhu Jat; aged 36; has no male heir; title, Maharaja; salute, 11 guns.

Personal.

10. His Highness the Maharaja on the whole kept very good health throughout the year under report. He has continued to take a keen interest in his favourite pastimes of fishing and shooting, paying visits to the Central Provinces and the Kalsia State for this purpose.

11. There have been no changes in the personnel and the general administration of the State has been maintained at a high level.

Administration. **The War.** 12. His Highness, with characteristic loyalty, placed all the resources of the State at the disposal of the Government of India on the outbreak of the European War. His Excellency the Viceroy was pleased to accept Rs. 2,00,000 as the Maharaja's contribution towards the expenses of the War. In addition to this, His Highness gave Rs. 25,000 towards the Indian Relief Fund; Rs. 7,500 to the Prince of Wales' Relief Fund; Rs. 2,000 to the Red Cross Fund; 3 ambulance cars, valued at Rs. 12,525 each; and 114 Cavalry horses. The Government of India also accepted the offer of the services of the State Imperial Service Infantry and 4 Companies were sent to East Africa, where they have done good work. Sardar Natha Singh, Bakhshi of the State Forces, went as Commandant of the Contingent, with Sardar Baldeo Singh, son of Sardar Bahadur Sardar Shamsher Singh, C.I.E., Chief Minister of the State, as second-in-command. The detachment has lost heavily in killed and wounded. Many of the wounded have returned to the State, and each party has been given an ovation on its arrival at Sangrur, where the men are made comfortable till they can move to their homes on sick leave. The Maharaja has generously ordered that each wounded man, according to his rank, is to receive a grant of money before returning to his home, and he has further decided that, as the Imperial Indian Relief Fund has numerous calls upon it, relief will be granted to the relatives and dependants of the killed or maimed of the detachment from the State Treasury. In all matters concerning the War His Highness has acted most generously.

Agriculture. 13. In the early part of the year under report the weather conditions adversely affected the kharif outturn, though rain fell from time to time. As a consequence, the yield of jowar, bajra, moth, mung and sugarcane was very poor. Prices in the State, as was the case throughout India, rose as a result of these unfavourable weather conditions and the outbreak of the European war. During this season several villages of the Dadri district were visited by swarms of locusts, but as prompt measures were taken to destroy them, little damage was done to the crops. The kharif sowings exceeded the average of the past five years by 12·07 per cent. Good rains at the beginning of the season permitted the sowing of an extensive area for the rabi crop of 1915. The area under cultivation was 39·61 per cent. above the average of the past five years. Fodder was sometimes scarce, but not to such an extent as to cause anxiety. The rabi crop was a very good one and is expected to yield about 24·44 per cent. above the average. The total revenue demand for the year was practically recovered.

Public Works. 14. The construction of the Jind-Panipat line of railway is progressing rapidly. A survey of a part of the Dadri *Ilaqa* was completed at a cost of Rs. 7,875.

Miscellaneous. 15. Last year there were 49 co-operative credit societies in the State. This year three new ones were started. The capital at the disposal of these societies has risen from Rs. 82,216 to Rs. 98,023. The societies have done much to increase the prosperity of the agriculturists.

NABHA.

Area, 928 square miles; population, 248,887; approximate revenue, Rs. 19 lakhs; army and police, 1,591; Chief, Ripudaman Singh, Sidhu Jat; aged 32; has no male heir; *title*, Maharaja; salute, 11 guns.

Personal. 16. His Highness the Maharaja spent the greater part of the hot weather at Mussoorie and Dera Dun as in the previous year. He still leads a very retired life.

Administration. 17. There is nothing to record again this year regarding the administration of the State which continues to follow the traditional methods. In August the Maharaja engaged Sir P. C. Chatterjee, late a Judge of the Chief Court, Punjab, as his Chief Minister, for a period of one year. Very few of the more responsible posts are held by Sikhs.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

II.—STATES OF THE BAHAWALPUR AGENCY.

18. Major A. J. O'Brien, C.I.E., held charge of the Bahawalpur Agency from the 1st April to the 19th October 1914 and Major A. C. Elliott, I. A., during the rest of the year under report.

BAHAWALPUR.

Area, 15,000 square miles; population, 780,641; approximate revenue, Rs. 41 lakhs; army and police, 2,006; Chief, Sadiq Muhammad Khan, Abbasi, V, Daudputra; aged 10; title, Nawab; salute, 17 guns.

Personal.

19. His Highness the Nawab, who is now 10 years of age, returned from England about the middle of December in charge of Mr. C. H. Atkins, I.C.S., much improved in health and general culture. Mr. Atkins made over charge of the Nawab to Mr. E. M. Atkinson who had been appointed Tutor. After a short stay at Dera Nawab, with a visit at Christmas time to Bahawalpur, and followed, after his return to Dera Nawab, by a trip to Derawar Fort and another to Jajja to meet His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, His Highness left the State in charge of his Tutor and Maulvi Ghulam Hussain, Assistant Tutor, to join the Aitchison Chiefs' College at Lahore where he was admitted into the 2nd form and is reported to be doing well as regards both studies and health.

Administration.

20. The State continued to be administered successfully by the Council of Regency. Nawab Malik Talib Mehdi Khan, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Revenue Member, took 2½ months' privilege leave with effect from 10th March 1915, and Khan Bahadur Mirza Sultan Ahmad, Extra Assistant Commissioner, who has previously officiated, carried on his work during his absence.

The War.

21. The Imperial Service Camel Corps, Escort and Baggage Corps are as efficient as ever. Immediately on the outbreak of hostilities in Europe the Darbar loyally offered all its troops for service abroad. Half of the escort of the Imperial Service Camel Corps was accepted for duty in the first instance and sent to Egypt. Later on the other half with camels was sent to Basra. 110 camels of the Baggage Corps, with their retinue, under the command of a Risaldar, are at Mombassa. The Darbar generously contributed Rs. 50,000 to the Indian Relief Fund and Rs. 27,000 were subscribed by officials and subjects of the State towards the same fund.

Crops and collection of revenue.

22. The rainfall was good throughout the State and especially heavy in the Minchinabad District. The rabi crop was good, but the kharif suffered from unusual floods. It was owing to the damage caused by these floods that large remissions and suspensions were granted, and that the revenue collections are short by about a lakhand-a-half. Notwithstanding this the revenue collections were good, as nearly all the budgetted amounts were realized.

Irrigation.

23. All the canals carried a good supply during the rainy season. Some important canals failed at the end owing to breaches caused by heavy floods. The *Chakbandi* system has not yet been completed. No new canal was undertaken during the year, as the whole attention of the State was devoted to the improvement of the old canals and to carrying out investigations for a perennial canal project. The Darbar's second representation in this connection is now under consideration by the Government of India.

MALER KOTLA.

Area, 167 square miles; population, 17,144; approximate revenue, Rs. 10 lakhs; army and police, 561; Chief, Sir Muhammad Ahmad Ali, Khan Bahadur, K.C.S.I., Pathan; aged 34; has a male heir; title, Nawab; salute, 11 guns.

Personal.

24. The health of His Highness the Nawab and members of his family was good during the year. In the summer His Highness visited Simla and Mashobra, and while at the former place paid informal visits to His Excellency the Viceroy, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. In April His Highness was nominated as a Member of the Managing Committee and Visitor of the Chiefs' College, Lahore. The Sahibzada and his brothers are being educated by Mr. Wakefield, their tutor, and are looked after by Miss Allsop, their governess.

Administration.

25. There is again no change to report in the administration, which is satisfactory. In August last on the termination of settlement operations, Khan Sahib Chaudhri Muhammad Din, Extra Assistant Commissioner, proceeded on furlough.

The War.

26. His Highness generously contributed Rs. 4,000 towards the Imperial Indian Relief Fund and Rs. 1,000 towards the Prince of Wales' Fund. A sum of Rs. 10,000, subscribed by the subjects of the State, has been credited to the Imperial Indian Relief Fund and further subscriptions are being collected. His Highness further made a donation of Rs. 40,000 as a contribution towards the expenses of the Indian Expeditionary Force.

Police.

27. The Police work during the year has been successful and especially so in a big dacoity known as the Jhuner dacoity case, in which 7 men were arrested and made over to Government for trial in the general conspiracy case. The Jhuner case was held over till the Lahore Conspiracy case should be decided. The Darbar have shown marked willingness in co-operating with Government measures in regard to returned emigrants.

Military.

28. The Maler Kotla Imperial Service Sappers, who have been re-armed with Lee-Enfield rifles, are a very efficient body of men. Immediately on the outbreak of hostilities the Darbar placed their troops at the disposal of Government and both the half companies, each 100 strong, were employed with Indian Expeditionary Force "A" in France. They are one of the fortunate Indian Army units mentioned in Field-Marshal Sir John French's despatches as having especially distinguished themselves at Neuve Chapelle. A new company has been formed in lieu of the Sappers on active service.

Faridkot.

Area, 642 square miles; population, 130,294; approximate revenue, Rs. 10¾ lakhs; army and police, 435; Chief, Brij Inder Singh, Barar Bans, Jat; aged 18; title, Raja; salute, 11 guns; has a male heir.

Personal.

29. His Highness the Raja is now over 18 years old and his health throughout the year has been good, except for a little fever occasionally. The trip to Gulmarg during the hot weather considerably benefited his health. His Highness successfully terminated his academical career by passing the diploma examination with distinction from the Aitchison Chiefs' College in April 1914. He returned to his State after his trip to Gulmarg in October 1914 and commenced a course of training in administrative work with Mr. L. Middleton, C. S., as his Tutor and Guardian. The most important event of the year was the birth of a Tikka Sahib of Faridkot and the event was duly celebrated in the State. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor paid a short visit to the State in January 1915.

Administration.

30. The Council of Regency, under the presidency of Sardar Bahadur Sirdar Dayal Singh, Man, unfortunately proved a failure and was consequently abolished, and it was decided that the State should, for the future, be administered by a Superintendent. Till the arrival of Rai Bahadur Lala Ganga Sahai, the newly appointed incumbent of this post, Major A. J. O'Brien, C.I.E., the officiating Political Agent, acted as Superintendent in addition to his own duties from the middle of April to the middle of May. A scheme for the improvement of the administration of the State has been drawn up and sanctioned, and from experience gained so far there is every reason to believe that it will be a success.

The War.

31. The Darbar have made the following generous donations during the year :—Rs. 50,000 to the Imperial Indian War Relief Fund, Rs. 25,000 to the Prince of Wales' Fund, also a sum of Rs. 25,000 to the Lady Hardinge Memorial Fund.

Military.

32. The Imperial Service Sappers are very efficient. They have proceeded to British East Africa, having been generously offered by the Darbar for Imperial defence, and from reports received from Major Mainprise, R. E., the officer in charge, they are acquitting themselves well.

Public Works.

33. The State have secured the services of a competent Engineer to look after their water-works and electric light schemes and also to be in charge of the Public Works Department of the State.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

III.—STATES OF THE JULLUNDUR DIVISION.

KAPURTHALA.

Area, 630 square miles; population, 268,133; approximate revenue, Rs. 31 lakhs; army and police, 933; Chief, Sir Jagatjit Singh, Bahadur, G.C.S.I., Ahluwalia Sikh; aged 42; has a male heir; title, Maharaja; salute 11 guns; tribute Rs. 1,31,000.

Personal.

34. His Highness the Maharaja enjoyed good health throughout the year. Early in March 1915 he proceeded to Europe to see his children and after visiting France and Spain is at present touring in America. Shortly after the Maharaja's departure Mr. L. French, C.I.E., I.C.S., who had held the post of Chief Minister, during the past five years, reverted to British service.

Administration.

35. During the Maharaja's absence in Europe the business of the State is being carried on by Khan Sahib Mian Abdul Hamid, Chief Secretary, under the general control and supervision of Tika Paranjit Singh, the heir-apparent. The administration of the State has proceeded very satisfactorily during the year under report. Crime has been normal, and though the return of a large number of more or less disaffected emigrants from America has been a disturbing factor, the prompt and vigorous action of the Darbar and their ready co-operation with the British authorities have prevented any serious outbreak.

The War.

36. On the outbreak of the war His Highness the Maharaja immediately offered the resources of his State to Government. The State Imperial Service Troops were sent on active service to East Africa. The Maharaja very generously offered a contribution of one lakh of rupees towards their maintenance on field service for a period of one year, and this offer has been gratefully accepted by Government. The State has also undertaken to train a number of horses for Government before they are drafted to the front.

MANDI.

Area, 1,200 square miles; population, 181,110; approximate revenue, Rs. 4,30,000; army and police, 162; Chief, Jogendra Sen, Rajput Mandal; minor; title, Raja; salute, 11 guns; tribute Rs. 1,00,000.

Personal.

37. The young Raja, whose health has been good, is still being educated in Queen Mary's College at Lahore. He is now 11 years old and is progressing satisfactorily in his studies.

Administration.

38. Steady improvement is being made in the administration of the State. Mr. A. L. Gordon Walker, I.C.S., Superintendent and Settlement Officer of the State, returned to Mandi from leave on the 2nd April 1914 and remained in charge till the 11th February 1915, when he was obliged to proceed on leave owing to illness. Mr. H. W. Emerson, I.C.S., was appointed Superintendent of the State in his place.

SUKET.

Area, 420 square miles; population 54,928; approximate revenue, Rs. 2,32,000; army and police, 71; Chief, Bhim Sen, Rajput; aged 30; has no male heir; title, Raja; salute, 11 guns; tribute, Rs. 11,000.

Personal and administration.

39. His Highness the Raja, whose health has been good throughout the year, has administered the State satisfactorily on the whole. The financial condition of the State is giving rise to some anxiety.

The War.

40. His Highness the Raja has given 17 mules and a sum of Rs. 30,000 towards the expenses of the present war and has very generously contributed a further sum of Rs. 12,000 per annum for two years. His practical and generous assistance to the cause of the Empire has been gratefully accepted by Government.

IV.—LAHORE DIVISION.

CHAMBA STATE.

Area, 3,216 square miles; population, 135,873; approximate revenue, Rs. 3,89,000; army and police, 419; Chief, Sir Bhure Singh, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Rajput; has male heir; aged 46; title, Raja; salute, 11 guns.

Personal and administration.

41. His Highness the Raja Sir Bhure Singh, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., continues to administer the State in a very efficient manner.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

The War.

42. The Raja has shown the greatest generosity in his donations to the war funds. He himself gave Rs. 50,000 and the officers of his State Rs. 2,450. The Raja, besides supplying the Gurkhas on their departure from Bakloh and their families after the regiment had left with free rations, has given a number of horses and the use of his motor-car to the Army Department.

V.—STATES OF THE AMBALA DIVISION.

SIRMUR (NAHAN).

Area, 1,198 square miles; population, 138,520; approximate revenue, 6 lakhs; army and police, 506; Chief, Sir Amar Prakash, K.C.S.I., Rajput; aged 26; has male heir; title, Raja; salute, 11 guns.

Personal and administration.

43. His Highness the Raja takes a very keen interest in the administration of the State and himself supervises the working of every department. Owing to His Highness' personal interest in every department the State continues to be well administered. The Nahan Water Works were completed and water was actually brought into Nahan, but very heavy rain and floods washed away the bridges over the Jalal stream, and these will have to be reconstructed. The Commissioner paid a visit to the State during the year under report.

The War.

44. The Sirmur Sappers have been lent by the State for active service at the front and are now in Mesopotamia. His Highness the Raja contributed Rs. 10,000 to the Indian Relief Fund, and some Rs. 1,200 were also subscribed by the people. His Highness also made a gift of 25,000 lbs. of tea from his own tea estate for the use of troops in the field.

KALSIA.

Area, 168 square miles; population, 55,909; approximate revenue, Rs. 2,46,966; army and police, 88; Chief, Ravi Sher Singh, Jat; aged 12; title, Sardar; no male heir.

Personal and administration.

45. The young Sardar, who is now over 12 years of age, is doing well in the Aitchison College at Lahore. The State administration is carried on efficiently by a Council consisting of a President and two members. Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sant Singh, Extra Assistant Commissioner, is the President and continues to work well. The settlement work in the Kalsia State is approaching completion. The Commissioner visited the State twice during the year under report.

The War.

46. Rs. 5,000 have been subscribed by the State and Rs. 2,552-14-0 by the State people towards the Imperial Indian Relief Fund. Rs. 50,000 also were offered by the State and accepted by the Government of India for war expenses.

PATAUDI.

Area, 53 square miles; population, 19,453; approximate revenue, Rs. 15,740; army and police, 37; Chief, Muhammad Ibrahim Ali Khan, Bahadur, Pathan; aged 27; has a male heir; title, Nawab.

Personal and administration.

47. The Nawab is beginning to take an interest in the State administration. Khan Bahadur Mir Nasir Ali continues as Diwan of the State. The first Administration Report of the State prepared by the present Nawab was for the last year. The Commissioner visited the State during the year under report.

The War.

48. Rs. 10,000 have been subscribed by the State and Rs. 4,640 by the people towards the Indian Imperial Relief Fund. Also Rs. 15,000 were given by the State for war expenses.

LOHARU.

Area, 224 square miles; population, 18,597; approximate revenue, Rs. 88,000; army and police, 84; Chief, Sir Amir-ud-din Ahmed Khan, Bahadur, K.C.I.E., Moghal; aged 56; has a male heir; title, Nawab; personal salute, 9 guns.

Administration

49. The financial administration of the State continues to be carried on by Mirza Aziz-ud-din Ahmad Khan, heir-apparent to the Chief of the State, who is trying to improve the finances of the State and is working satisfactorily.

The War.

50. The Nawab subscribed Rs. 750 to the Imperial Indian Relief Fund, and Rs. 250 to the Prince of Wales' Fund. The people of the State subscribed Rs. 425 towards the Imperial Indian Relief Fund. Two hundred camels were also given by the State to Government.

DUJANA.

Area, 100 square miles; population, 25,485; approximate revenue, Rs. 77,170; army and police, 133; Chief, Muhammad Khurshaid Ali Khan, Bahadur, Pathan; aged 31; has a male heir; title, Nawab; tribute, 50 sowars, on requirement.

51. The Nawab continues to administer the State affairs himself. The Commissioner paid a visit to the State during the year under report.

Fifty camels were supplied by the State to the Government of India.

VI.—STATES UNDER THE POLITICAL CONTROL OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, HILL STATES, SIMLA.

52. The chief particulars of the Simla Hill States are given in the following table :—

No.	State.	Area in square miles including feudatories.	Population in 1911.	Revenue.	Tribute.	Name of Chief.	Race.	Age.	Title.	Whether male heir or not.	Military forces and police.	REMARKS.
				Rs.	Rs.							
1	Bilaspur ...	448	93,107	3,33,425	8,000	Bijai Chand, C.S.I. ...	Rajput	42	Raja	Yes	118	
2	Bashahr ...	3,820	88,957	1,44,442	3,945	Padam Singh ...	Do.	41	Do.	Yes (adopted).	13	
3	Nalagarh ...	258	49,230	1,57,460	5,000	Jogindar Singh ...	Do.	45	Do.	Yes	48	
4	Keonthal ...	116	25,354	1,00,971	...	Bijai Sen ...	Do.	38	Do.	Yes	36	
5	Baghal ...	124	26,008	68,976	3,600	Bikram Singh ...	Do.	22	Do.	Yes	25	
6	Bhagat ...	36	8,797	50,000	132	Durga Singh ...	Do.	13	Rana	No	32	
7	Jubbal ...	288	23,727	1,98,063	2,520	Bhagat Chand ...	Do.	26	Do.	Yes	19	
8	Kumharsain ...	90	12,219	30,000	2,000	Vidayadhar Singh ...	Do.	20	Do.	No	7	
9	Bhajji ...	96	14,972	33,504	1,440	Bir Pal ...	Do.	9	Do.	No	32	
10	Mailog ...	43	8,663	37,783	1,440	Durga Chand ...	Do.	17	Thakur	No	16	
11	Balsan ...	51	6,225	18,500	1,080	Bir Singh ...	Do.	51	Rana	No	...	
12	Dhami ...	26	4,484	30,000	720	Hira Singh, C.I.E. ...	Do.	38	Do.	Yes	25	
13	Kothar ...	20	4,016	17,000	1,000	Jagjit Chand ...	Do.	28	Do.	Yes	8	
14	Kunihar ...	80	2,208	6,000	180	Hardeo Singh ...	Do.	17	Thakur	No	9	
15	Mangal ...	12	1,267	1,000	72	Tilok Singh ...	Do.	64	Rana	Yes	...	
16	Bija ...	4	1,064	8,496	124	Puran Chand ...	Do.	19	Thakur	No	8	
17	Darkuti ...	8	521	8,700	...	Ram Saran Singh ...	Do.	72	Rana	Yes	...	
18	Taroch ...	67	4,493	5,000	288	Surat Singh ...	Do.	28	Thakur	Yes	...	
19	Sangri ...	16	3,022	2,743	...	Hira Singh ...	Do.	65	Rai	Yes	...	
20	Kaneti ...	19	2,854	8,590	...	Amog Chand ...	Do.	24	Thakur	No	...	*
21	Delath ...	42	1,392	2,743	...	Narindar Singh ...	Do.	65	Do.	Yes	...	*
22	Koti ...	50	8,265	44,154	...	Raghbir Chand ...	Do.	55	Rana	Yes	56	†
23	Theog ...	144	6,345	14,391	...	Padam Chand ...	Do.	29	Thakur	Yes	8	†
24	Madhan ...	9	3,901	5,500	...	Randhir Chand ...	Do.	28	Do.	No	6	†
25	Ghond ...	28	1,887	5,610	...	Ranjit Singh ...	Do.	32	Do.	Yes	...	†
26	Ratesh ...	12	472	700	...	Hira Singh ...	Do.	47	Do.	Yes	...	†
27	Rawin ...	7	749	3,091	...	Kidar Singh ...	Do.	38	Do.	Yes	...	‡
28	Dhadi ...	25	244	1,600	...	Dharm Singh ...	Do.	27	Do.	Yes	...	‡

* Tributaries of Bashahr.
† Tributaries of Keonthal.
‡ Tributaries of Jubbal.

53. *Bilaspur.*—The administration is proceeding smoothly. The Raja has taken several measures to encourage recruiting for the army. On the outbreak of the war His Highness offered his personal services and the services of his State. He has also decided to exempt from land revenue the men of the State who are employed in the Indian Army and who may be sent on field service.

54. *Bashahr.*—Raja Shamsher Singh died in August last, and Mian Padam Singh, his adopted son, was installed as Raja on November 13th, 1914. He has as yet only limited powers, and Mr. Mitchell, C. S., continues to act as Manager.

55. *Nalagarh.*—The State Council has not been re-established, and the Raja, at his own request, has been lent the services of Chaudhri Ramji Lall, late Naib-Tahsildar, Simla, to act as Wazir. The Raja has been given full powers of administration subject, till the extinction of the State debt, to the financial control of the Superintendent, Hill States. The debt should be repaid in full during the present year. An heir was born to the Raja in August, but has since died. The Raja offered his personal services and the services of the State in connection with the war.

56. *Keonthal.*—The Settlement work was completed without further trouble, though the new assessment has not yet been announced, pending the receipt of Government sanction. The State is still under financial management.

57. *Baghal.*—The Raja's condition has not improved.

58. *Baghat.*—The health of Kanwar Amar Singh has greatly improved and with it the administration of the State. The Rana (who is now over 13 years of age) offered the services of the State in connection with the war.

59. *Jubbal.*—The forest administration has not been very satisfactory. The working plan is in arrears. The Rana offered his personal services and the services of the State in connection with the war. His offer of Rs. 25,000 in monthly instalments of Rs. 5,000 each towards the war fund was accepted.

60. *Kumharsain.*—Rana Hira Singh died in August last. Tikka Vidyadhar Singh has been recognised as Rana by Government, but, in accordance with the custom of the State, has not yet been placed on the *gaddi*. The services of the present Manager, M. Sukh Chain Singh, are being retained till the Chief's formal installation. An heir was born in March to Tikka Vidyadhar Singh, but died when three months old.

61. *Bhajji.*—The Council have consolidated their position, and the condition of the State is satisfactory. The Rana Bir Pal Singh offered his personal services in connection with the war.

62. *Dhami.*—The Rana at his subjects' wish dismissed the former State officials. The administration is now satisfactory. He offered his personal services and the services of his State in connection with the war.

63. *Sangri.*—In connection with the war the Rai offered the services of his State.

FRONTIER AFFAIRS.

64. There has been a general increase in criminal cases, but this is marked only in adultery, theft and dacoity. In civil cases also there has been an increase, but it is a satisfactory sign that the Baluchis are resorting more freely to the Jirga to settle their disputes in civil matters as well as in connection with cases of adultery and theft. There are special reasons for the increase which occurred in dacoity cases. The Bozdar and Kasrani tribes were infected with a spirit of lawlessness partly owing to the European War but mainly by reason of the intrigues of Sardar Faqir Khan. The offenders have been duly punished and Sardar Faqir Khan has been removed from the district, having been sentenced to a long term of imprisonment. The dacoities in question were the subject of a special report to Government.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

65. The behaviour of the Tumans has been marred by the ill-conduct of the Bozdars and Kasranis and also of the Sori Lunds. The last-named tribe created disturbances in connection with the payment of *batai* to its Chief. The matter has now been settled. Otherwise the behaviour of the tribes has been generally satisfactory.

66. Sardar Jamal Khan has been installed as Chief of the Leghari tribe, but in consequence of his inexperience it has been necessary to impose a number of restrictions upon the full exercise by him of the powers of Chief. He is practically under probation and his conduct is being watched. Khan Bahadur Sardar Din Muhammad Khan continued to do good services both as acting Tumandar of the Leghari Tuman and in connection with the general administration of Baloch affairs. The Gurchani Tuman was well administered by Nawab Jallab Khan, C.I.E. Sardar Ghaus Bakhsh Khan, Mazari, on the occasion of the recent disturbances in the South-West Punjab, proceeded immediately on requisition to the Muzaffargarh District with a large body of Mazari sowars and rendered very valuable assistance in the suppression of the dacoities of the Alipur Tahsil. Nawab Sir Bahram Khan, K.C.I.E., Mazari Chief, has continued to guide the deliberations of the Chiefs' Jirga and to manage the affairs of his own tribe with wisdom and experience.

9.—Condition of the people.

[For information regarding this section, *vide*—

Administration Report for the years 1911-12, paragraph 249.

Moral and Material Progress Report for the years 1901-02 to 1912-13 and Chapter VI, below.]

67. The monsoon was on the whole well distributed, and the winter rains, though exhibiting remarkable fluctuations from the normal, were favourable. But for the contraction of the area under cotton and sugarcane the autumn harvest, which was 5 per cent. above the average, would have been even better than it was. High prices stimulated extensive rabi sowings, and the matured area exceeded last year's figures by 32 per cent. The surface results of a harvest have seldom been more satisfactory, even if the proved yield falsified some anticipations.

68. The province had a healthy year, though the early winter rains brought about a recrudescence of plague, the effects of which were not fully felt till after the close of the twelve months. There was a satisfactory rise in the birth rate, which amounted to 46·3 on the figures of the 1911 census. The death rate rose, however, to 32 *per mille* and was 0·9 in excess of the quinquennial average.

Fevers and cholera claimed more victims than in 1913, but small-pox was less severe. Prices of food-grains were not excessive till the outbreak of the war. About the end of September, however, there was a sharp rise, and at the end of November the retail price of wheat at the capital was no less than 8 seers the rupee. Wages continued to rise, and the heavy recruiting for the army and in the Lahore and Rawalpindi Divisions the severity of plague brought about a certain shortage of labour. In Lyallpur, which depends on immigrant reapers for the spring harvest, this class was distinctly scarcer than usual.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :—

PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

Realization of the Revenue.— } Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year 1st October 1913 to 30th September 1914.
Revenue Surveys and Settlements.— }

Professional Surveys.—General Report on the Operationss of the Survey of India for the year ending 30th September 1914.

Land Records.—Report on the Operations of the Department of Land Records, *Punjab, for the year ending* 30th September 1914.

Waste Lands and Government Estates.—
1. Annual Report for the Chenab, Jhelum and Chunian Colonies for the year ending 30th September 1914.
2. Land Revenue Report, *as above.*

Wards Estates.—Report on the Administration of Estates under the Court of Wards in the Punjab for the year ending 30th September 1914.

Revenue and rent-paying classes.—Land Revenue Report, *as above.*

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF *INDIA*.

Agricultural Statistics of India, Volume I—

Area Totals—Table 1 J.	Transfers of Land—Table 6 H.
Classification of Area—Table 2 I.	
Incidence of Land Revenue—Table 5 I.	Changes in Boundaries—Appendix B.

10.—Realization of the Revenue.

FIXED LAND REVENUE.

69. The fixed land revenue demand for the year was just a little over Rs. 212 lakhs, a decrease of Rs. 57,615 from the last year's demand. This was due chiefly to the reduction in the rent roll of the Gujranwala District on account of the introduction of a fluctuating assessment in portions of that district. The proportion of the demand collected was 96·2 per cent. and no difficulty was experienced in realizing it. Nearly 7½ lakhs were suspended chiefly on account of the bad harvests in the districts of Hissar, Rohtak and Gurgaon and Rs. 84,000 were remitted for various causes. Of the outstanding balance of the previous year, amounting to Rs. 9,80,101, Rs. 4,00,998 were recovered and Rs. 1,75,604 struck off. **Demand and Collections.**

70. The action of rivers in practically all districts was on the whole beneficial. During the kharif of 1914 heavy floods occurred in the Beas and the Ravi, but no such calamity affected the special assessments of the year under report. The area newly assessed was 45,757 acres, and on 43,086 acres, which were found to have improved, an assessment at higher rates was imposed. The diluviated area was 25,074 acres. Deterioration was confined to 15,181 acres. The net increase in the fixed land revenue roll was Rs. 26,107. **Riverain action.**

FLUCTUATING LAND REVENUE.

71. The demand on account of fluctuating land revenue rose from 110 lakhs to over 118 lakhs. Unfavourable agricultural conditions led to decreases in the Ambala Division, where fluctuating assesements are **Demand and Collections.**

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

comparatively unimportant, and also in Montgomery, where insufficient floods in kharif 1913 were followed by a poor rabi. In Muzaffargarh on account of the late opening of the canals and the insufficiency of river floods collections showed a slight decrease, but favourable floods and timely rainfall in Jhang and Mianwali caused an improvement of roughly half a lakh in each district. Increased cultivation of lands watered from the Upper Chenab Canal swelled the collections in Gujranwala by nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs and water-advantage rates levied for the first time on the same canal in the Pasrur Tahsil of Sialkot yielded over Rs. 22,000. Reassessment of the extensions of the Gugera Branch in Lyallpur resulted in an increase of over 4 lakhs. The increase of Rs. 1,06,433 in the demand in Multan is due not only to the abundance and timeliness of the rainfall, the floods and the canal supply, but also to stricter supervision of the work of annual assessment. In the tracts where the system of fluctuating assessment is now in force it is beyond doubt the most suitable method of assessment and is generally appreciated.

OTHER LAND REVENUE.

Demands and Collections.

72. The demand on account of other land revenue was nearly Rs. 49 lakhs, or Rs. 3 lakhs less than in the preceding year. The proceeds of sales of Government estates fell from 40 lakhs to 22 lakhs on account of the decreased sale of proprietary rights to colonists on the Lower Chenab Canal in Lyallpur and Gujranwala Districts. In Jhang District, however, sales increased from one lakh to nearly five lakhs. Auctions of Government waste in Gujranwala and Montgomery raised the receipts from $3\frac{1}{4}$ to $18\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs, and the extension of irrigation from the Lower Bari Doab Canal was the cause of an increase in the rents for single harvest cultivation from Rs. 68,500 to Rs. 1,68,500. Grazing is in consequence a declining source of income in Montgomery but remains constant elsewhere, the total receipts from this source being less by Rs. 11,500 than in the previous year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

73. There was a slight increase in the number of processes issued against lambardars in the year under report, but even so the number was much below that of earlier years. These were issued for the collection of $7\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, of which 96 per cent. was recovered. Processes were issued at the instance of lambardars for the collection of nearly two lakhs, of which 90 per cent. was collected; the number of these processes also was greater than in the previous years. The severer processes of imprisonment, direct management and attachment of immoveable property were practically not resorted to, and much less use than in the preceding year was made of the power to proceed against moveable property, but the number of warrants issued and executed for the arrest of lambardars and revenue-payers increased considerably. The reason for the increased number of processes is due chiefly to efforts to improve collections where there has been slackness in the past and also in districts where the assessment is notoriously lenient. In 23 districts $15\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of the land revenue demand were paid by money order. The extent to which remittances have been made in this way varies greatly from district to district. The method continues to be used only for the payment of small sums and by lambardars residing at a distance from the tahsil. Little use has been made of the system of remitting the revenue in currency notes. The plan of varying the dates of payment for different portions of the tahsils was generally found to work well.

11.—Professional surveys.

Surveys.

74. The Riverain Detachment, Survey Department, continued its work of traversing and laying down base lines during the year. The riverain survey of 485 square miles, on the Sutlej, Ravi, Chenab and

Jhelum rivers in Jullundur, Lahore, Sialkot and Gujrat was completed at a cost of Rs. 32,375. The Khushab-Thal Survey was also concluded. The area worked over was 200 square miles, and the cost Rs. 4,592. In Shahpur and Gujrat in part of the tract commanded by the Upper Jhelum Canal, not previously brought under survey, 25 acre rectangles were demarcated over 359 square miles. The cost was Rs. 4,050. The Kangra special survey was completed in Palampur and begun in Kangra. In spite of the constant bad weather 400 square miles were traversed and triangulated. The topographical survey of 8,161 miles in Hissar, Rohtak, Karnal, Ambala, Simla, Sialkot, Gujranwala and Gujrat was also undertaken.

Boundary Delimitation.

75. The Government of the United Provinces decided to reconsider the necessity for determining the provincial boundary. As a result of that decision, special officers from both provinces are now investigating the extent of fluctuation and discrepancy due to the operation of the deep stream rule, and considering proposals for action.

12.—Revenue Surveys and Settlements.

Operations.

76. Ten districts were under settlement during the year. Operations have since come to a close in five districts, namely, Hoshiarpur, Ferozepore, Amritsar, Dera-Hamirpur Tahsils of Kangra and Lyallpur. The duration and cost of each of these settlements and the enhancements taken in each will be found in Statements XIII and XIV of the Punjab Land Revenue Report. Operations are approaching completion in Sialkot, Lahore, Gujrat and Shahpur. It was found necessary to extend the period of settlement in Lahore, Gujrat and Shahpur. In the first and last-named districts this was due to late orders being received on the assessment reports which had to be referred to the Government of India and in Gujrat it is due to colonization operations having been undertaken in addition by the Settlement Officer. Progress in Shahpur has been delayed chiefly owing to negotiations with the private canal owners for the acquisition of their canals which are affected by the Upper Jhelum Canal.

77. The final settlement reports of Amritsar and Gujranwala were submitted during the year. The question of the assessment of the Bhakkar Thal villages, which had been reserved for further consideration in the orders of Government on the Mianwali final settlement report, was taken up and decided. The Settlement Officer's assessment was confirmed for the same term as was allowed to the rest of the district, and orders as to the method of collection were passed.

78. Forecast reports were received during the year from Simla and Montgomery. In the former case sanction to the inception of settlement was given and operations began after the close of the year; in the latter it was decided to postpone the re-settlement of the Ravi Tahsils which alone were ripe for re-settlement, but a simple system of fluctuating assessment was introduced to meet the changes imminent through the opening of the Lower Bari Doab Canal.

A scheme of future settlement operations has been drawn up and will be found as Appendix V in the Punjab Settlement Manual.

Settlement staff.

79. The opening of the Kangra and Jullundur settlements at the beginning of the year afforded employment for a large number of Naib-Tahsildars and kanungos released from other settlements. Elsewhere, however, reductions of establishment were carried out as tahsils were completed, and at the end of the year half of the settlements had each less than the full establishment of one tahsil. Considerable difficulty was therefore found in providing employment for the subordinate establishment, and the difficulty was aggravated by the decision to postpone the resettlement of the Ravi tahsils of Montgomery. As reductions proceeded

it was found necessary to dispense with the services of all officiating and sub. *pro tem.* kanungos, and it is also proposed to retire men whose term of service is almost complete. The reductions resulted in an excess in the 1st grade of kanungos, and all grade promotion has now been stopped till the excess is absorbed. The Naib-Tahsildar as well as the kanungo establishment has suffered from the contraction of settlement operations, for it has been found necessary materially to reduce the number of permanent posts in each division.

13.—Land Records.

Patwaris.

80. The experiment of distributing work in canal-irrigated districts between the Canal and Revenue patwaris is still in progress in Lyallpur and has also been introduced in Shahpur. There is a hope that the general scheme on the lines of the present experiment is feasible, but the experiment is being continued for the present in selected districts only in order to determine the convenient size and nature of circles and the method and degree of supervision necessary. The work of the patwaris continues to compare favourably with that of other branches of the Revenue Establishment, and offences meriting dismissal have been fewer than before.

Kanungos.

81. The scheme for amalgamating district and settlement kanungos is reported to be working satisfactorily on the whole, and has been properly worked in most districts. Selected field kanungos in districts not under settlement attested about 8,000 cases of undisputed inheritance, but the only district in which appreciable relief was afforded to Revenue Officers was Lyallpur. In eight districts under settlement all permanent kanungos were empowered to decide cases of undisputed inheritance, but only 17,000 cases were decided, of which 15,000 were in the Kangra District.

Records.

82. During the year record work was completed in Hoshiarpur and reached the final stages in Ferozepore, Sialkot, Shahpur and the Dehra-Una settlement. In Lahore and Gujrat riverain measurements are in progress, and in the latter district killabandi also, while good progress was made with killabandi work in the Montgomery colony. Settlement operations commenced during the year in Jullundur and the Palampur, Kangra and Nurpur Tahsils of Kangra. In the former district more than half the record work in the Jullundur and Nakodar Tahsils was completed, but in the latter little revision of the record took place as the measurements are based on traverse data furnished by the Survey Department, which only began to deliver *masavis* towards the end of the year. The state of the annual records is satisfactory. Supervision by the higher ranks appears to have materially improved.

14.—Waste Lands and Government Estates.

The old colonies.

83. The following statement shows the area sown on the permanently allotted area with percentage of crops failed in the last two years :—

	AREA SOWN.		PERCENTAGE FAILED.	
	1912-13.	1913-14.	1912-13.	1913-14.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Lower Chenab	1,872,675	1,922,265	·3	·3
Lower Jhelum	396,730	400,739	4·2	6·20
Chunian	78,633	85,665	8·9	6·29

It will be seen that there was a considerable increase of cultivation upon all three canals. The remodelling of distributaries on the Lower Chenab has been satisfactorily carried out.

Re-assessment.

84. In the Lower Chenab Colony the assessments of the Lyallpur District have been completed, the assessment undertaken during the year under report yielding an increase of Rs. 2,61,084 on the previous demand. Assessments were also completed in 35 proprietary villages in Jhang. Government has recently passed orders sanctioning the offer of fixed assessment for both land revenue and occupiers' rate to certain villages in the Gujranwala District in which Gibbs' modules have been set up. It is satisfactory to learn that these modules have proved successful and are popular. There were no settlement proceedings in the Lower Jhelum Colony. Some remeasurement was carried out in the Chunian Colony.

Towns.

85. Improvements in the water-supply at Gojra, Toba Tek Singh and Chak Jhumra are approaching completion. The Jhelum Colony towns appear to be in a prosperous condition and various improvement schemes are in progress. The head-quarters of the Shahpur District were transferred to Sargodha on 1st April 1914, resulting in a marked access of prosperity to the town.

Service rents.

86. Good progress has been made in mule-breeding in the Lower Chenab Colony and the number of mules purchased yearly shows an increase and the stamp of mules is improving, while fewer defaulters have been reported by the Army Remount Department than in the previous year. The four Grantee Camel Corps are well reported on by the Transport Department. The abolition of one of these Corps has been under consideration, but the proposal has been postponed on account of the war.

87. The Commissioner of Rawalpindi gives a very encouraging report of the successful working of the horse-breeding conditions in the Lower Jhelum Colony. The demand for remounts in war-time is the test which the scheme was designed to meet, and it is most gratifying to learn that it was met so well.

The Lower Bari Doab.

88. Progress was considerably retarded by the mishap to the Upper Jhelum Headworks by which the hope of a supply of water for the *rabi* harvest of 1915 was frustrated. In spite of all obstacles, however, very satisfactory results have been achieved in the Lower Bari Doab. 146,156 acres have been allotted permanently, though, as the conditions of the various kinds of grants are still under consideration, these allotments are, except as regards land sold at auction, technically only of a temporary nature. Of this area 41,162 acres represent grants for special purposes, 86,325 acres allotments on peasant terms to residents of the Montgomery District and 18,669 acres land sold at auction. In addition all preliminaries have been made for allotment for a number of other special purposes and to colonists from other districts. Allotment to colonists from districts has been suspended partly on account of the Mangla mishap and partly because of the war. It has been decided to allot an additional area of 75,000 acres as Military reward grants and consequently no further allotments have been made to other districts until Government has more accurate information as to the culturable commanded area.

89. Proposals have been received for selling town sites at Okara, the lay out of which has been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Town Planning Committee, and Government has been asked for the services of an Engineer for laying out the town at Khanewal.

Upper Chenab Canal.

90. The land to be irrigated by the Upper Chenab Canal is situated in the Gujranwala and Lyallpur Districts. In both districts the necessary preparations have been made for the colonization of the peren-

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

nial area. This on measurement has been found to be somewhat less than had been anticipated, and, as at present ascertained, is 38,669 acres. Orders have been issued for allotment to Disappointed Jhelum Grantees. The kharif area is not at present exactly ascertained, but owing to the decision of Government not to proceed with the project of an irrigated plantation on this canal the allotable area will be larger than anticiapted.

15.—Wards' Estates.

91. The Court of Wards began the year with 4 estates under its charge and took over 3 during the year. Three estates were released during the year in a prosperous condition. As an illustration, the Jhang Sial estate in the Jhang District may be taken. It came under management in 1904 on the application of the wards and was released in 1914 on the estate being restored to solvency. In these ten years not only have debts to the value of over Rs. 62,000 been paid off, but the assets have increased in value by Rs. 18,000. Deputy Commissioners of two districts were during the year appointed guardians under the Guardian and Wards Act (VIII of 1890). The auction sales of land on the Lower Bari Doab Canal gave certain estates an opportunity to make large investments. 4,400 acres of land were purchased by them for Rs. 12,12,732. One-and-a-half *lakhs* were spent by all the estates under the Court of Wards' control on permanent improvements. The Mamdot estate in the Ferozepore District has made progress in arboriculture by planting 1,400 trees. The horse-breeding stud of the Kot estate in the Attock District, judged by the test of prizes won at shows, has been very successful during the year. The same estate has expended over Rs. 43,000 in advances to tenants out of a provincial total of Rs. 46,000; the outstanding balance under this head is, however, only Rs. 20,000. More estates might find it to their advantage to finance their tenants from crop to crop rather than leave this to the *bania*, especially if they could arrange to give their advances in the form of selected seed.

16.—Revenue and rent-paying classes.

General.

92. The total cultivated area of the province has fallen by 169,000 acres. It is probable that this is merely statistical, being due to more accurate soil classification when a new record-of-rights is prepared at settlement or at quadrennial attestation, but the causes of variation are being examined. The incidence of the assessment on the privately owned area returned as cultivated is Re. 1-3-6 per acre. The percentage of the cultivated area held on mortgage continues to fall, and is now 11½ per cent. The proportion held by members of non-agricultural tribes has fallen from 5·4 to 5·1 per cent.

Loans Act.

93. The total amount of takavi advanced for land improvements was Rs. 3,23,365 or three-quarters of a lakh more than in the preceding year. The amount of loans advanced reached the level of the dry years 1907 and 1908 and was not much below the level of 1902 and 1903. The increase, however, is not due to bad seasons, but to increase of prosperity of the people, the extension of canal irrigation and the growth of co-operative societies. The amount advanced for the purchase of seed and cattle was little more than half the amount taken in the previous year and fell to Rs. 2,62,885.

Transfers.

94. With the increasing prosperity of the province the reluctance of the zamindar to make permanent alienations of land becomes more pronounced. The total cultivated area in which proprietary rights were sold during the year fell to 121,809 acres. The total area sold was 209,605 acres. These figures do not include sales of proprietary rights to colonists.

The decrease in total area transferred is from 279,222 to 259,494 acres. Proprietary rights were mortgaged with possession in 245,631 acres of cultivated land and redeemed in 282,290 acres as against the previous year's figures of 219,672 and 268,698 acres, respectively. The Redemption of Mortgages Act tends to increase the number of all transfers for value. Redemptions continue to gain on mortgages and the area under usufructuary mortgages is decreasing and now stands at 11·5 per cent. of the cultivated area. Exchanges and gifts maintain a normal course.

95. There was a considerable rise in the transfer value of land in almost every district in the province, the average sale price, corrected to allow for abnormal transactions, being Rs. 71 per acre and Rs. 122 per acre cultivated as compared with Rs. 66 and Rs. 101, respectively, in the previous year. The rise may be attributed to the recent banking crisis which increased the volume of money seeking a safe investment in land and to the high prices which were obtained for agricultural produce during the year.

Land Alienation Act.

96. The working of the Land Alienation Act occasioned no special difficulty. The policy of notifying small tribes of true agriculturists which had not been considered strong enough numerically to be included in the original notification is being continued. Members of agricultural tribes bought 207,097 acres and sold 193,082 acres. They gained by mortgage 254,507 acres, but lost 283,315 acres and effected redemption of 304,397 acres, but suffered redemption of 308,009 acres. They are therefore better off to the extent of proprietary rights in 14,015 acres, but are worse off to the extent of rights of mortgage for limited periods in 32,520 acres. The conclusion is that the permanent rights in land are returning to the hands of the cultivating classes, and that the capital of the money-lending classes is being more freely devoted to the land under approved forms of security.

Rent-paying classes.

97. Suits for the enhancements of rents paid by occupancy tenants fell from 1,772 cases in the preceding year to 1,589. Plaintiffs were successful in 75 per cent. of the cases. Litigation of this description increased considerably when the districts in which occupancy tenants are numerous came under re-settlement, but is now declining. The volume of litigation is small particularly in view of the abnormally large number of districts now or recently under settlement. Only 3 out of the 40 suits for reduction of rent were successful. Litigation for the ejectment of occupancy tenants was inconsiderable. Proceedings against other tenants were, however, more numerous than in the preceding year. Applications for ejectment rose from 12,003 to 13,417 and notices issued from 26,368 to 30,019, but ejectments ordered fell from 6,801 to 6,472 and ejectments actually made from 6,163 to 5,671. Decrees for ejectment numbered 2,400 or slightly less than in 1912-13. There is no evidence that the relations between landlord and tenant were other than normal. Tenants were successful in contesting liability to ejectment in only 955 cases.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Descent of Jagirs Act.

98. Three declarations of a rule of integral descent were notified in the year under report, the total annual value being 1,767. The total number of jagirs now notified under the Act is 142 with an annual value of nearly 8 lakhs out of a total of above 30 lakhs assigned.

Punjab Land Preservation (Chos) Act.

99. Orders were passed by Government on the proposals made by the local officers for the extension of the scope of operations in the Hoshiarpur Siwaliks, and for the revision of the protective measures. It was decided not to impose any restrictions outside the area already notified, or to extend to the whole of it the restrictions of Section 5, but the local officers have been directed to select suitable areas, which are to be the

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

catchment areas of the more destructive chos to which that section may be applied. In Ambala the areas to be protected were demarcated and notifications under sections 3 and 4 published. The areas to which the application of section 5 is suitable were also ascertained and proposals were submitted at the end of the year.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below:—

PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

Police.—(1) Report on the Police Administration of the Punjab for the year 1914.

(2) Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act for the year 1914.

(3) Report of the Chemical Examiner to Government, Punjab, for the year 1914.

Criminal Justice.—Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1914.

Prisons.—Report on the Administration of the Jails in the Punjab, 1914.

Civil Justice.—Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in the Punjab and its Dependencies during the year 1914.

Registration.—Note on the Registration Returns of the Punjab for the year 1914.

Legal Affairs of Government.—Report on the Administration of the legal affairs of the Government of the Punjab for the year 1914.

Local Boards Administration.—Report on the Administration and Accounts of the District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

Municipal Administration.—Report on the working of municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1914-15.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Statistics of British India, Part VI.—Administrative and Judicial.

Part VIII.—Local Funds.

17.—Legislating Authority.

100. The following changes took place amongst the Hon'ble Members of the Council:—

(1). The Hon'ble Mr. A. B. Kettlewell, C.S., was nominated, *vice* the Hon'ble Mr. C. A Barron, C.I.E., resigned.

(2). The Hon'ble Mr. C. A. Barron, C.I.E., was nominated, *vice* the Hon'ble Mr. A. B. Kettlewell, resigned.

(3). The Hon'ble Sir Michael W. Fenton, K.C.S.I., I.C.S., was nominated, *vice* the Hon'ble Mr. H. J. Maynard, resigned.

18.—Course of Legislation.

101. Three meetings of the Legislative Council were held during the year under report—two in Lahore and one at Simla. **Business transacted.**

Only one Bill—a Bill to amend the Punjab Courts Act,—was introduced and passed in Council during the year.

It received the assent of His Excellency the Viceroy on the 27th April 1914 and has become law as Punjab Act IV of 1914.

Out of the following four resolutions :—

(1). Resolution on the problem of Beggary,

(2). Resolution on the amendment of Agreement entered into for the supply of Portland and other Cements,

(3). Resolution of sympathy with His Excellency Lord Hardinge and his family at the untimely death of Her Excellency Lady Hardinge,

(4). Resolution in regard to the War,

moved in Council, the first two were withdrawn, while the others were carried and passed.

One hundred and fifty-two questions were put and answered.

India Acts.

102. The Acts of the Imperial Legislative Council more particularly affecting the Province passed during the year are :—

(1). The Sea Customs (Amendment) Act, 1914 (XII of 1914).

(2). The Indian Life Assurance Companies (Amendment) Act, 1914 (XIII of 1914).

(3). The Indian Post Office and Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 1914 (XIV of 1914).

(4). The Indian Army (Amendment) Act, 1914 (XVI of 1914).

(5). The Indian Aircraft (Amendment) Act, 1914 (XVII of 1914).

(6). The Second Repealing and Amending Act, 1914 (XVII of 1914).

(7). The Emergency Legislation Continuance Act, 1915 (I of 1915).

(8). The Foreigners (Amendment) Act, 1915 (III of 1915).

(9). The Defence of India (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 1915 (V of 1915).

(10). The Indian Paper Currency (Temporary Amendment) Act, 1915 (V of 1915).

(11). The Indian Patents and Designs (Temporary Rules) Act, 1915 (V of 1915).

(12). The Sea Customs (Amendment) Act, 1915 (IX of 1915).

19.—Police.

GENERAL POLICE FORCE.

General.

103. It is satisfactory that the decrease in crime which was first noticed in 1913 has been maintained in the year under review. The returns of true cognizable crime (47,375) again exhibit a slight decrease of 501 cases, and there is some ground for the belief that, but for the disturbance of normal conditions created by the war, the criminal record of the Province, which seems to have reached its high water mark in the year 1913, would have shown even a more marked improvement. Perhaps the most satisfactory features of the year were the success of the special measures taken in the Rawalpindi Division for coping with violent crime, and the success of the Criminal Investigation Department and the mobilised Police reserves, ably backed up by the district forces, in coping with the determined efforts of the *Ghadr* party of returned emigrants to produce a state of anarchy in the central districts of the Province. In both cases it was the effective and cordial co-operation of the people of the Province who were prompt to show that, as a body, they had no sympathy with the anarchic ideas and terrorist methods of the revolutionary, and had

no sympathy with lawless criminals, that enabled the police to preserve peace and order during a time of stress and trouble. That Government was not slow to reward services rendered by the public to the administration in connection with the suppression of crime and disorder is shown by the fact that 61 persons received grants of land amounting to 1,890 acres, the revenue of 7 villages to the extent of Rs. 10,125 was remitted, and Rs. 2[illegible],850 was paid in cash rewards.

Murders.

104. There was a most satisfactory drop in murders during the year from 625 in 1913, the highest figure on record, to 538. If cases of culpable homicide and attempted murders are also included, the decrease is from 927 to 841 cases or nearly 10 per cent.

Dakaitis and Robberies.

105. There was only a slight decrease in dakaitis and robberies, but, in view of the activities of the political dakait and the existence of other disturbing factors during the latter half of the year, it is a matter for congratulation that a considerable increase in this class of crime was not recorded.

Burglaries.

106. Compared with 1913 the year under review shows a decrease of 277 cases in burglaries, which was chiefly due to the excellent results obtained by *thikri pahra* operations in the Western Range and, to a lesser extent, in the Central Range. These good results were unfortunately discounted by an increase of over 600 cases in the Eastern Range, which appears to have been victimised by outside criminals.

Thefts.

107. Statistics show an increase in ordinary thefts of 409 cases, and a slight decrease in cattle thefts. The high prices prevailing during the latter half of the year were undoubtedly responsible for the increase in ordinary thefts, and the discouraging effect of the high prices of fodder similarly explains the decrease in cattle thefts.

Police working.

108. Police working as judged by judicial statistics has been slightly more successful than in the previous year, the percentage of cases convicted to tried being 70 compared with 68. This improvement, which set in in 1913, may be ascribed to the more speedy disposal of cases by trying courts; delays in dispensing justice being without doubt one of the most fruitful causes of the failure of justice. In this connection it is to be noted that the delay occasioned by the duplication of proceedings owing to the existing commitment procedure has been brought to the notice of the Government of India in reference to the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Preventive sections.

109. The preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code and their working have been again the subject of much unfavourable comment, and it appears obvious that the bad livelihood sections as they stand do not furnish a very complete or satisfactory method of dealing with professional criminals. The question of a reform on lines which, while placing this class under stricter control, will obviate the alternative of confining in jail in default of security, is now engaging the attention of the Local Government.

Disregard of authority.

110. Several cases of assault upon the Police and other officials in the execution of their duty were reported during the year, most of which occurred in the Gujranwala, Sialkot, Lahore, Lyallpur and Attock Districts. It is noteworthy that in a considerable number of cases reported by the Central Range districts Police officers were assaulted while executing, under the orders of courts, search warrants for abducted women.

Criminal Investigation Department.

111. The Criminal Investigation Department has, owing to the revolutionary and seditious activities produced by the war, been burdened with very arduous responsibilities, and it is most fortunate that it was reorganised and strengthened in time to deal with the various under-currents of more than one dangerous movement. The hearty co-operation received from district officials has contributed in a large measure to the success with which the department has handled a difficult situation. The Local Government is also much indebted to the Darbars and the Police of the Native States in

the Province for their energetic co-operation in dealing with the seditious activities of persons who resided or found refuge within their borders.

Finger Print Bureau.

112. The Finger Print Bureau continues to show a large volume of successful work.

Internal economy.

113. The Police force was substantially strengthened during the year, the increase being mainly due to the requirements of the canal colonies, the expansion of the railway town of Mughalpura and the necessity for strengthening the staff of the Criminal Investigation Department. Concurrently with this, however, the Lieutenant-Governor sanctioned a searching enquiry into the distribution of the Police throughout the Province, and an officer has been placed on special duty for the purpose. There is reason to believe that considerable economy can be effected by a redistribution of the force on lines which are more in accord with modern conditions, but this will be more than counterbalanced by the early necessity of increasing the pay of the lower ranks,—a question which is now under the consideration of Government. The number of resignations, dismissals, and vacancies and the difficulties experienced in recruiting—which are aggravated by the competition of other provinces who are able to offer higher rates of pay—indicate that the present pay is no longer sufficient to attract or retain the right stamp of man in the subordinate grades. The system of promotion and direct appointments to the upper subordinate ranks is also under examination.

Rural Police.

114. Mention has already been made of the excellent results that have been obtained in certain districts by the intelligent use of the *thikri pahra* and *nakabandi* system of patrolling. This system is of a voluntary nature, and depends for its success on the loyal assistance rendered by the villages in which it has been introduced. The Local Government is now prepared to consider the question of the expediency of placing this system on a definite and legal footing. During the year 11 zaildars, 283 lambardars and 264 chaukidars were punished for failing to assist the police and for neglecting their duties. On the other hand, 241 zaildars, 528 lambardars and 252 chaukidars were rewarded for services to the criminal administration. It will be seen, therefore, that the policy of punishing those who fail in their public duty to the administration and, at the same time, of liberally rewarding good service is being steadily pursued.

Criminal Tribes.

115. New rules under the Criminal Tribes Act have been issued and the Local Government is about to take action on the recommendations contained in the report submitted last year by the Provincial Criminal Tribes Committee. The behaviour of the Harnis and Bauriahs continues to be satisfactory and the character of the Minas shows a remarkable change for the better. Members of this last tribe now enlist in the Army and Police, and nearly all the boys willingly attend school, some of whom, indeed, are doing well as school teachers. On the other hand, the Sansis, Balochis, Dhinwars and Pakhiwaras continue to be troublesome, and in many cases appear to be intractable.

Chemical Examiner.

116. For the first time for many years the work of the Chemical Examiner has slightly decreased, the total number of cases being 1,833 with 5,511 articles, as compared with 1,919 and 5,902, the figures for the year 1913. Arsenic and opium continue to be the most commonly used poisons in human poisoning cases. The percentage of cases in which the use of arsenic was detected has fallen from 34·6 per cent. in 1912 to 27·21 per cent. in the year under report. In cattle poisoning arsenic was found to have been used in 84·42 per cent. of cases. The high percentage of arsenic still used in cattle poisoning cases points to the fact that the poison is easily procurable

and it is difficult to accept without reservation the theory that the Poisons Act is solely responsible for the decrease in its use in human cases. During the year under report the services of the Imperial Serologist were for the first time utilised to any considerable extent by this Province.

20.—Criminal Justice.

117. The general course taken by crime during the year has been discussed in the previous section, and need not be repeated here.

Disposal of cases.

118. The decrease in the volume of crime coincides with improved results in the Criminal Courts. The percentage of cases resulting in conviction or compromise rose from 71 to 73, and of those resulting in conviction from 36 to 37. In murder cases convictions rose from 47 to 49 per hundred persons tried. There has been a slight fall in the percentage of successful appeals in all classes of appellate courts. The number of death sentences confirmed was 150. This is the highest on record in the Punjab and is 3 higher than last year.

119. Although the new Sessions Divisions were not formally constituted till August, when the revised Punjab Courts Act was brought into force, the six new Judges sat as Additional Sessions Judges from January, and there were 21 Sessions Courts throughout the year. There was less press of original work, and only 990 cases were disposed of as against 1,112 in 1913, the average duration falling from 61 to 48 days. The disposal of appeals were from 7,548 to 7,875. Disposal of section 30 cases by District Magistrates fell from 425 to 372, leaving 1,354 to be disposed of by specially empowered Magistrates against 1,339 in the previous year.

120. The provincial average duration in Magistrates' Courts was 19 days as compared with 18 in 1913. In Sessions cases the average duration in the Sessions Court is 48 days,—a vast improvement on the 61 days of 1913. But even so, allowing 30 days for the commitment proceedings a Sessions case takes 11 weeks to decide, and the Local Government has recently urged that steps should be taken to abolish or shorten the commitment procedure.

General.

121. The systematic inspection of Subordinate Courts by Hon'ble Judges of the Chief Court was undertaken for the first time during the cold weather, 1914-15. A third Temporary Additional Judge was sanctioned in this connection for six months and assumed charge on the 21st October 1914.

Marriage registration.

122. Registration of marriages is in force in a few districts, and appears to be producing good results in discouraging false charges. Reports on its working are now before Government, which will be willing to facilitate the extension of the system where public opinion favours it.

Act XIII of 1859

123. As a result of the complaints in regard to the working of Act XIII of 1859 the Hon'ble Judges have issued a circular drawing the attention of Subordinate Courts to the objects of the Act, and pointing out the most common mistakes in its application. If these instructions do not have the desired effect it will be for consideration whether the Act should remain applicable to the Punjab.

Procedure.

124. The problem of dealing with the mass of false evidence given in the Courts is one of great difficulty, but it has been recognised that it would help Judges to gauge the value of a witness' statement if they could be relieved of the drudgery of recording statements in full. They would then be able to devote more attention to the demeanour of the witness and to the general conduct of the case. After consultation with the Hon'ble Judges it has been decided to try the experiment, in one or two Sessions Courts, of allowing the Judge to dictate the record in English to a stenographer or typist. It is not at present possible to exempt him from the necessity of making a memorandum himself as the witness proceeds, but the memorandum may be of the brief nature that the framers of the Code appear to have contemplated.

21.—Prisons.

Institutions.

125. The new Sub-Jails at Dera Ghazi Khan, Sargodha and Amritsar were completed and occupied during the year. The old Shahpur Jail is being temporarily converted into a Special Institution for the treatment of tubercular prisoners owing to difficulties in connexion with the water supply : the scheme for the fifth Central Jail is still incomplete.

Accommodation.

126. The total accommodation available during the year was for 14,660 prisoners, while the daily average (including lock-ups) was 14,869 or 209 in excess of the accommodation. This overcrowding was relieved at first by establishing camps within the Central Jails at Montgomery and Multan and subsequently spreading the surplus over all jails. Over a lakh and a half of rupees were spent on buildings.

Admissions.

127. There were 39,833 admissions during the year as against 38,273 in 1913. The daily average of prisoners was 14,982 as against 13,613 last year.

Juveniles and juvenile adults.

128. Seventy-three children received sentences of *imprisonment*, against 90 last year. The Borstal Institute continues *to develop and the* number of inmates now collected in it is 1,145. Government has just published an interesting brochure recently written by Captain F. A. Barker, I.M.S., Superintendent of the Lahore Borstal Jail, dealing with the principles of the Borstal treatment as applied to Indian prisoners.

Under-trials.

129. The average period of detention has fallen from 25 to 23 days, and the percentage of convictions on those admitted has increased from 42 to 43·5.

Discipline.

130. Seventeen prisoners escaped, six from within jail walls and the remainder from extra-mural gangs. Of these 9 only were recaptured during the year. The use of fetters as a measure of security rose from 129 to 170. The conduct and work of the staff has not been as efficient as in the previous year owing to the reversion of Indian Medical Service Officers to military duty, and the comparative inexperience of some of their successors. The remarkable diminution in the number of prison offences generally which was noticed last year was well maintained, the number for the year being 27,537 as against 29,461 in 1913 The number of prisoners punished by whipping rose from 7 to 24. Convict officers continue to do excellent work. The remission system still continues to exert an influence for good on the conduct and behaviour of the prisoners.

Financial.

131. The total expenditure on guarding and maintenance was Rs. 11,61,145—an increase of Rs. 1,23,431 on last year, due mainly to the higher population. On the daily average strength the cost per head was Rs. 78-3-7, as against Rs. 77-1-8 in 1913, due to the rise in the price of grain.

Industries.

132. The daily average number of convicts sentenced to labour was 13,350 as against 11,927 last year. The cash profits realized were Rs. 2,78,285, or an increase of Rs. 77,856 over those of last year. The indirect profits realized from the employment of convict labour on the erection and repair of buildings, garden and other jail duties were Rs. 5,65,211 as against Rs. 4,85,688 in 1913. The cash earning per head rose from Rs. 16-13-0 to Rs. 20-13-0, while the net cost per head fell from Rs. 62-4-0 to Rs. 59-9-0.

Health.

133. Admissions to hospital increased by 752, the daily average sick by 55, and the mortality rate by 9·09. These increases are due to the higher population of the year, climatic conditions and the temporary disorganization of the medical staffs attached to the Central Jails at Montgomery and Multan, caused by the reversion to military duty of their whole-time Medical Officers. Dysentery, which was widespread and affected every jail, allowed for 898 admissions and 66 deaths, malaria for 1,396 admissions and 3 deaths, pneumonia for 288 admissions and 51 deaths, tubercle for 374 admissions and readmissions and 111 deaths. Regarding this disease complete segregation of all recognized cases is now the only remedy left

to be tried, and arrangements are being made accordingly to have this done in the old Shahpur Jail. A tubercle expert was attached to each of the Central Jails during the year and much has already been done by these officials to reduce the incidence of the disease. Other diseases accounted for 133 deaths.

22.—Civil Justice.

134. The most noteworthy feature of the year under report was the change in the status and organization of the Civil Courts of the Province effected by the Punjab Courts Act of 1914 on 1st August. On that date the 21 Divisional and Additional Divisional Judges became District Judges, 14 of one district and 7 of two districts each, the civil district remaining identical with the Revenue District. The old District Judges became Subordinate Judges, losing their powers of administration and control of other Subordinate Courts and their position as principal courts of original jurisdiction within their districts. The Senior Subordinate Judge in each district was invested with the appellate powers exercised by the old District Judge, and in certain districts was also authorised to dispose of proceedings under various special Acts. **Organization.**

135. The number of suits instituted in the Province in 1914 was 195,266 as compared with 191,702 in 1913. The difference of 3,500 is accounted for by a rise of 5,000 in suits for money or movables, and a fall of 1,500 in title and other suits. The Inspecting Judges, however, found that there was diversity of practice in classification of suits for statistical purposes, and variations in figures may really be largely due to this cause, which it is now hoped to remove by amended instructions. **Institutions.**

136. The total value of suits instituted has risen from Rs. 3,54,68,797 in 1913 to Rs. 4,43,01,270 in 1914. In Lahore District alone the total value increased by 75 lakhs and the average value increased from Rs. 420 to Rs. 1,017. The Provincial average value rose from Rs. 186 to Rs. 227. **Value of suits.**

137. Disposals of original suits were 207,584 out of 238,966 for disposal. Each figure exceeds that of 1913 by over 5,000. The duration of the contested cases in Courts below District Courts has fallen from 75 to 74 days, and the annual increase of several years past has been arrested. **Disposals.**

138. In the Chief Court both institutions and disposals were much in excess of those of previous years. Institutions of first appeals continue to rise, and in spite of increased disposals the pending file is rising also. Disposals of further and second appeals, however, exceeded institutions for the first time in recent years, and the Court had to deal with abnormally heavy criminal work. The Indian Companies Act, VII of 1913, which was brought into force on 1st April 1914, has increased the work of the Chief Court on the original side. **The Chief Court.**

139. The results obtained in execution proceedings vary but little from year to year. During the last 13 years the percentage of applications that have been satisfied in full has ranged from 22·1 to 26·5 and the percentage that were wholly infructuous from 56 to 58·7. **Execution.**

140. The working of the Insolvency Act was subjected to careful examination during the year, and proposals for its amendment have been made to the Government of India. The necessity for an inquiry is emphasized by the growth of work under the Act. In 1911 there were 1,022 applications dealt with: their number has steadily risen till it stood at 2,159 in 1914. The percentage of insolvents discharged has, however, risen from 17 in 1912 to 25 in 1914. Realisations were also better by nearly a lakh, and the total of unsatisfied claims was reduced to 29 lakhs as compared with 33½ lakhs last year. **Insolvency Act.**

141. The rules under the Guardian and Wards Act have been amended, and it is not now obligatory on a court to direct the annual submission of accounts and to maintain a continuous pending record in **Guardian and Wards Act.**

cases where the income of the wards' estate does not exceed Rs. 500. It is to be hoped that the administration of the Act on broader lines will reduce litigation and the work of the Courts without causing any countervailing disadvantages.

23.—Registration.

General business.

142. Compulsory registrations (82,911) shew an increase of 3 per cent. over the figures of 1913 due to increases under sales and mortgages of 2 and 5 per cent., respectively. No general explanation of the increase is possible, except in the Ambala Division, where it can be ascribed to partial crop failure at kharif 1913 and rabi 1914. Agricultural prosperity and the enhanced value of land are the probable causes in Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur and Sialkot, while the general increase in the western districts of the Punjab is explained only in Mianwali where compulsory registrations rose by 21 per cent. from 1,572 to 1,902 owing to additions to the mortgage debt and to conversion of mortgages into sales, presumably with the object of redeeming part of the mortgaged land. The only noteworthy decreases occurred in Jullundur, Ferozepore, Jhelum, Attock and Lyallpur. In Jullundur it is ascribed to decreased emigration and to cholera and plague, in Ferozepore to greater reliance on our mutation procedure and in Jhelum and Attock to a bumper rabi. The value of the property transferred increased by 11 per cent., a clear indication of the steady rise noticed in previous reports in the value of immoveable property.

143. Optional registrations affecting immoveable property (3,924) increased by 3 per cent. in number and 11 per cent. in value. The value of leases rose considerably owing to the registration of one document in Shahpur of the value of Rs. 13,500 while the heavy increase in the value of "other instruments registered under section 18, clause (a) and (b)" occurred chiefly in Amritsar, Gujranwala and Multan.

144. Optional registrations affecting moveable property (4,909) shew an increase of 6 per cent. in number and 17 per cent. in value The large increase in the value of sales is due to the sale in Simla of a European jeweller's stock and in the value of all other documents registered under section 18, clause (f), to the registration in Lahore of some deeds of partnership of very high value.

Land Alienation Act.

145. Rules have been sanctioned by Government and incorporated in Appendix VII to the Registration Manual by which the registering officer is required to note against the copies of documents contravening the Land Alienation Act that the sanction of the Deputy Commissioner had not been obtained and that registration was in contravention of the provision of section 17 (2) of the Act. Similar notes are also prescribed on copies of mortgage deeds cancelled under section 9 (2), and when a mortgage deed is revised or altered under sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 9 of the Act.

146. Benami transactions are still fairly common especially in the west of the province, but they are rarely discovered at the time of registration, and Jhelum is the only district which reports their detection by a sub-registrar.

Income and expenditure.

147. The income from registration fees increased by 3 per cent. while there was a decrease in other receipts of 3 per cent. due to fewer applications for inspections and copies, the net increase of total income amounting to 2½ per cent. Expenditure was greater by 4 per cent. The increase in commission paid to registering officers is due to the increase in the number and value of the documents registered, and in the cost of establishment to increases in the number and pay of permanent and temporary clerks necessitated by the higher cost of living and the general increase of registration business.

The total income was Rs. 3,63,450: the total expenditure Rs. 1,40,221.

23-A.—Legal Affairs of Government.

148. The number of references for opinion disposed of by the Legal Remembrancer was 1,146 as compared with 910 in 1913 and 893 in 1912.

149. The Secretary of State was plaintiff in 11 original suits during the year. Of these 6 were decided in favour of Government, none against, and 5 remained pending at the close of the year. Of the six cases decided in favour of Government five were for possession of land and one was for the recovery of money. The total amount involved was Rs. 14,877-4-6.

150. The Secretary of State was defendant in 100 original actions including land acquisition cases. Of the 17 land acquisition cases, 16 were decided and one was withdrawn. The Collectors' awards were upheld in 11 : while in 5 cases they were enhanced. The total enhancement amounted to Rs. 25,442-3-6. The amounts actually claimed by the owners above the Collectors' awards were over 3 lakhs.

151. Of the other 83 civil suits, 30 were decided in favour of, and 10 against the Government and 4 were compromised, whilst 39 remained pending at the close of the year.

The total amount involved was on account of—

	Rs.	A.	P.
(*a*) Land acquisition cases, and ...	7,08,147	2	9
(*b*) Other cases	3,25,880	11	3
Total ...	10,34,027	14	0

In Class (*b*) above, the total amount claimed in decided cases was Rs. 1,45,644-10-10 out of which Rs. 9,580-11-10 only (including costs) was decreed against Government, whilst Rs. 1,273-12-2 was awarded to Government on account of costs in cases in which the plaintiffs' claims were totally dismissed. The Secretary of State was appellant in 8 appeals, of which 4 remained pending at the close of the year. One was decided in favour of, and 3 against Government. The Secretary of State was respondent in 34 appeals of which 17 were decided in the year, 14 being in favour of, and 3 against Government; while 17 remained pending at the close of the year. No original revenue suits or appeals were brought by Government. Two original revenue suits were brought against Government and remained undecided: the 3 appeals filed against Government were decided in favour of the latter.

152. During the year there was a marked increase in both the references for opinion and in the judicial work of the Department.

24.—District and Local Boards.

153. Contests occurred in the case of only one-fifth of the 185 vacancies which had to be filled. The working of most of the boards is reported to be satisfactory. The apathy which in many districts members are said to display can best be remedied by making them to some degree responsible for the efficiency of the administration of the boards, though this would involve a relaxation of official control which would at any rate for some time result in considerable administrative inefficiency. The extension of the system of sub-committees which has taken place during the year is therefore to be welcomed. Such committees not only relieve the proceedings at meetings of much of their tedium and leave more time for the discussion of larger questions of greater interest, but also bring home

to members their responsibilities as the authority in charge of the interests of the district in so many directions. The general question of the constitution and powers of district boards and the devolution of authority to local boards or sub-committees is being examined in connection with the recent resolution of the Government of India declaring their policy in regard to the development of local self-government.

154. The demonstration farm of the Sialkot District Board which was started last year was handicapped by the unfavourable character of the season, but some success was attained, and the example is one which might with advantage be followed by other boards. The endowment of scholarships by certain boards to enable agriculturists to take the short practical course at the Lyallpur Agricultural College is a useful development which is welcomed by Government.

155. Industrial Schools were opened by the Gujranwala and Karnal Boards, and an industrial class was also started at Gujar Khan in the Rawalpindi District. The Industrial School at Kasur, which was started last year, is said to have improved very greatly.

156. The gross income of the district boards of the Province continues to expand and during the year amounted to Rs. 83,82,125, an increase of Rs. 2,16,757 on the income of the previous year. The total amount of Government grants was Rs. 2,27,276 greater than in 1913-14, and the local rate also produced Rs. 95,881 more, but these increases were to some extent counterbalanced by a considerable falling off in receipts from cattle fairs, sale of buildings and other property, and various other heads. Grants were made by Government to the amount of Rs. 32,50,606 : in addition, contributions payable by district boards to Government, which in the previous year had amounted to about Rs. 2,29,000, were remitted.

157. There was little progress in the provision of veterinary dispensaries during the year, but so much has been accomplished in past years that the scope for development is now limited. The increasing popularity of veterinary dispensaries in Shahpur, Rawalpindi and Attock is satisfactory, as these districts have hitherto been backward in appreciating the value of veterinary institutions.

158. The reports of the year furnish ample evidence of the increasing interest which is being taken in cattle-breeding throughout the province. The formation of new cattle-breeding sub-committees is reported from several districts, and the number of bulls purchased by the boards from Hissar and elsewhere was considerable.

159. The problem of rural sanitation is now under the consideration of Government. The views of the boards with regard to certain tentative proposals, which were made in a resolution of Government on the subject, have been received, and naturally very divergent opinions have been expressed. Signs are not, however, wanting that in certain parts of the Province there is a very real desire to improve the sanitary condition of villages and rural areas, and indeed in some districts practical steps have already been taken towards the realization of this desire. These are indeed but small beginnings, but they are regarded by Government as signs of progress and as justifying the further encouragement of rural sanitation by investing boards by regulation or legislation with powers to enforce elementary rules of hygiene.

25.—Municipal Administration.

160. The steadily increasing interest which is being taken in municipal elections is shown by the number of vacancies contested, which rose from 37·3 per cent. in the previous year to 46 per cent. It is reported that only in a few cases was the keenness of the contest due to sectarian rivalry and this is a matter of satisfaction, for where religious differences

run high the administration of municipalities inevitably suffers, and interest in elections unaccompanied by subsequent interest in the proceedings of the members elected is of no great value.

161. The unenviable reputation of Rohtak, with regard to malpractices at elections, was again maintained, and the Deputy Commissioner actually reports that all the candidates withdrew owing to the high prices which were demanded for votes. The low conception of civic morality, which this fact indicates, is one of the causes of the slow progress of municipal institutions in many places, and must be deplored by all who have at heart the progress of local self-government. With few exceptions the number of meetings held was adequate, and attendance of members was satisfactory.

162. The working of most committees was satisfactory, though there is a very general complaint in the Jullundur and Multan Divisions of the inefficiency of municipal offices evidenced by a disregard of rules and regulations. The very real spirit of progress which exists in municipal administration is evidenced by the demand for better conditions of life in towns, for improved systems of sanitation, for stricter control of food and water-supplies, and generally for the amenities of modern life; however this is combined with an easy toleration of bad roads and insanitary surroundings which closer supervision by municipal bodies and their staffs could remedy at very small cost.

163. The aggregate income of municipalities again rose from Rs. 76,46,000 in the previous year to Rs. 82,92,902. Excluding loans and deposits, however, there was a considerable decrease amounting to about Rs. 2,35,000, chiefly owing to falling off in the income from octroi due to the war.

164. The improvement of urban sanitation continues to rank in the forefront of municipal activities. The appointment of duly qualified Health Officers, paid in whole or in part by Government, and of Sanitary Inspectors, upon which Government insisted last year, has received the attention of most of the committees concerned, and the posts have in most cases been filled. Numerous schemes for the improvement of drainage and water-supply are in progress, and to all such Government has been prepared to contribute generously, but on the principle always of helping those who help themselves, for it is considered that committees should not be encouraged to look to Government to provide amenities for which they are not prepared to pay if necessary by an increase of taxation.

165. A special feature of the year was the opening of cheap grain shops by several municipalities to relieve the high prices prevalent last cold weather, and Government in the special circumstances created by the war contributed a share of the cost through the Provincial Branch of the Imperial Relief Fund. There is reason to believe that these cheap grain shops did much to ease the situation in the larger towns.

Taxation.

166. Sixty-one per cent. of the total income of municipalities excluding loans and grants from Government was derived from octroi. This source of revenue shows but little tendency to expand, and in fact was slightly less in the year under review than in 1909-10. The question of the substitution of terminal taxation for octroi has been under consideration in several municipalities: it has actually been sanctioned in Sargodha and has been introduced since the close of the year. In Muktsar and Fazilka its imposition has been sanctioned by the Government of India in principle, though final orders have not yet been passed. During the year there was little extension of taxation. Octroi was imposed for the first time in the new town of Dera Ghazi Khan where a site tax was also sanctioned, and the octroi schedules were revised in Simla, Rohtak and Urmar-Tanda.

PROTECTION.
Strength and Distribution of Volunteer Forces.

26.—Military (Volunteers).

167. The strength of the Volunteer Corps on the 31st March 1915 is reported to have been as follows :—

Corps.	Company.	Stations.	Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers.	Privates or troopers.	Total enrolled strength.	Total number of efficients.	Sergeant-Instructors.	Remarks.
Punjab Light Horse.	...	Field Officers and Staff	8	...	...	8	...	3	
	A	Lahore ...	5	27	169	201	200	...	
	B	Ambala ...	1	7	40	48	47	...	
	C	Rawalpindi ...	3	10	54	67	67	...	
	D R½	Peshawar ...	...	4	18	22	21	...	
	D L½	Amritsar ...	2	3	18	23	23	...	
	Detachment	Delhi ...	4	9	43	56	54	...	
	E	Lyallpur ...	...	4	18	22	22	...	
		Multan ...			5	5	5	...	
		Sargodha ...		2	7	9	9	...	
		Montgomery ...			8	8	8	...	
	...	Reservists ...	1	...	81	82	82	...	
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers.	9	...	...	9	...	...	
		Total ...	33	66	461	560	538	3	
1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	12	...	...	12	...	8	
	A, B, C and Cadet ½ Company	Lahore ...	11	29	286	326	326	...	
	D	Rawalpindi ...	2	7	111	120	119	...	
	E	Amritsar ...	3	9	63	75	70	...	
	F	Delhi ...	4	9	100	113	106	...	
	G	Murree ...	2	8	84	94	94	...	
	H	Do. ...	1	9	68	78	78	...	
	I	Peshawar ...	3	18	115	136	136	...	
	K	Ferozepore ...	4	9	107	120	120	...	
	L	Srinagar ...	4	10	51	65	64	...	
	M	Sialkot ...	1	4	43	48	48	...	
	N	*Delhi* ...	1	1	29	31	31	...	
	...	Reservists ...	1	...	145	146	144	...	
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers.	14	...	...	14	...	...	
		Total ...	63	113	1,202	1,378	1,336	8	
Simla Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	9	...	...	9	...	4	
	A, B, C, D, E and H	Simla ...	20	60	420	500	440	...	
	F and G	Sanawar ...	2	15	140	157	157	...	
	...	Reservists ...	2	...	90	92	35	...	
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers.	18	...	...	18	...	...	
		Total ...	51	75	650	776	632	4	
North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles.	...	Field Officers and Staff	10	...	...	10	...	5	
	A, B, C and D	Lahore ...	13	42	524	579	573	...	
	E	Ambala ...	2	7	156	165	165	...	
	F	Saharanpur ...	2	8	132	142	142	...	
	G	Rawalpindi ...	3	20	168	191	191	...	
	...	Reservists ...	...	...	13	13	13	...	
	...	Add for Supernumerary Officers.	...	...	...	...	...	...	
		Total ...	30	77	993	1,100	1,084	5	

The Punjab Light Horse, the 1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles, and the North-Western Railway Volunteer Rifles were inspected in February 1915 and the Simla Volunteer Rifle Corps in June 1914.

The results were considered satisfactory.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :—

PROVINCIAL REPORTS

Agriculture —(1) Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending June 30th, 1915.

(2) Annual Report of the Punjab Veterinary College and of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the year 1914-15.

(3) Annual Report of the Government Cattle Farm at Hissar for the year 1914 15.

(4) Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1914.

(5) Report on the working of Co-operative Credit Societies for the year ending 31st March 1915.

(6) Report of the Department of Fisheries for the year ending 1st June 1915.

Weather and Crops.—(1) Report on the weather of the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

(2) Punjab Season and Crops Report for 1914-15.

Horticulture.—Report on the Government Agri-Horticultural Gardens, Lahore, for the year ending 31st March 1915.

Forests.—(1) Progress Report of Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1914-15.

(2) Report on the *Administration* and *Accounts* of the District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

Arboriculture.—Progress Report on Arboriculture in the Punjab for the triennial period 1911-12 to 1913-14.

Manufactures.—Report on the working of the Factories Act in the Punjab during the year 1914.

Trade. —(1) Report on the Internal Trade of the Punjab by Rail and River for the year ending March 31st, 1915.

(2) Report on the Internal Land Trade of the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

(3) Report on the Joint Stock Companies in the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

Public Works. —Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Buildings and Roads Branch, for the year 1914-15.

Irrigation.—(1) Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Punjab, Irrigation Branch, for the year 1914-15.

(2) Land Revenue Report as above.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Agriculture.—(1) Statistics of British India, Part II, Commercial (Co-operative Credit Societies).

(2) Administration Report of the Army Remount Department in India for the year 1912-13.

Crops.—(1) Agricultural Statistics of India, volume I, tables 2-I and 3-I.

(2) Area and yield of certain principal crops in India.

(3) Prices and wages in India.

(4) Variations in Indian Price Levels, 1914.

Forests — Statistics of British India, Part IV (*b*), Finance and Revenue.

Mines and Quarries —(1) Statistics of British India, Part I, Industrial.

(2) Records of the Geological Survey of India, volume XLIII, part 2.

(3) Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines in India under the Indian Mines Act (VIII of 1901) for the year ending 31st December 1914.

Manufactures.—Statistics of British India, Part I, Industrial.

Trade.—(1) Accounts of the Trade carried by Rail and River in India.

(2) Statistics of British India, Part II, Commercial (Joint Stock Companies).

Railways.—Administration Report on Railways in India for the year 1914-15.

Irrigation.—Statistics of British India, Part III, Commercial Services.

27.—Agriculture.

SCIENTIFIC.

General.

168. Mr. Miller Brownlie, the Agricultural Engineer, whose appointment was sanctioned last year, took charge of his duties in February. He is available for consultation in all branches of Agricultural Engineering and is assisting the people by giving them advice in the sinking of tube wells and the introduction of pumping plants. His appointment has met a pressing need of the agriculturists of the Punjab and the larger zamindars of the Province are already beginning to avail themselves of his services.

169. Sardar Darshan Singh, Deputy Director of Agriculture, took charge of the new Cotton Farm at Hansi in October 1914. Mr. O. T. Faulkner, the newly appointed Deputy Director of Agriculture, joined the department in October and is being trained at Lyallpur under the Professor of Agriculture and the Principal of the College. He will be in charge of the new wheat farm to be established shortly in the great wheat tract in the north of the Punjab. M. Charan Singh, who was appointed Assistant Director of Agriculture two years ago, has been placed in charge of the Chunian and Lower Bari Doab Colonies.

Lyallpur College.

170. The College course has been completely changed from the College year which began in July 1914. Briefly, the change consists in substituting a four-year course in two parts for the old three-year course. The first part of the new course lasts two years and is confined almost entirely to practical agriculture. The second two years will be devoted mainly to the sciences underlying agriculture. This change in the syllabus, the improved prospects for students and the lowering of the cost of education have all operated beneficially in recruiting and in October 1914 a first year class of 23 students was formed: in October 1913 there were no first year students at all.

171. The attendance in the vernacular class, which was only started in 1913, numbered 16 in 1914. The students were of the best type for this class of instruction—all sons of zamindars. The fees for this class have now been reduced and an inclusive fee of Rs. 5 only per head for hostel accommodation, board and tuition is charged. As a number of public-spirited gentlemen and some district boards have offered scholarships, the education of students in this class will be practically free, and it is hoped to have a considerably larger class this year. Besides these two classes, a new departure was made last winter in extending the class for Assistant Commissioners in Indian rural economy so as to include a small number of Canal officers, Extra Assistant Commissioners, and Canal zilladars. The following table gives the classified list of students attending the Agricultural College in 1914-15:—

Europeans	8
Muhammadans	16
Hindus	28
Sikhs	23
Total ...	75

172. This year 120 applications for admission into the two years' course were received: the present first year class (selected out of them) numbers 32.

173. In 1914 the Government research scholarship was awarded to Bhai Kartar Singh, who is now studying dairying and the milk supply of Indian cities. In short, the College has had a satisfactory year and the new syllabus is working smoothly and gives promise of being both popular and useful.

174. Valuable work in chemical research continues to be done at the laboratory of the College and the Narwala Reh Farm. The Narwala experiment on the reclamation of alkali-infected soil is very promising. The wheat grown last winter on the land treated exceeded considerably in outturn the average crop for the Colony as a whole. The experimental work done on our farms produced many useful and instructive results: a brief mention is made of the more important. Experiments in wheat showed that Punjab 11 wheat is best suited to the canal colonies, while Pusa 12 is well adapted to the unirrigated parts of the Province. The sugarcane experiments show that the cane grown in Karnal in the east of the Province is superior in outturn to that grown at Gurdaspur, while the experience hitherto gained with artificial manures shows that none can be used profitably in the province at present. **Experiment and Research.**

175. This work is confined to the Chenab and Lower Bari Doab Colonies and Gurdaspur, Jullundur, Hoshiarpur, Ferozepore and Hissar Districts. Work is also carried on, but to a less extent, in the Jhelum Colony, and in Gujrat, Sialkot and Attock. Agricultural associations exist in *Gurdaspur, Jullundur,* Hoshiarpur, Lyallpur, Gujrat and Ferozepore. They are continuing to work satisfactorily. **District or Demonstration Work.**

176. The improved implements advocated are increasing in popularity with the cultivators. Nine hundred and seventy-five improved agricultural implements of all sorts were sold during 1914-15, compared with an average of 346 sold during the last five years. In addition, some 300 implements of sorts are out on loan. Although the reaper is a costly machine it is economical in canal-irrigated tracts. Messrs. Volkart Bros. *sold all the thirty they had* in stock and could have sold more had they been procurable. **Implements.**

Storage and Distribution of Seed.

177. The following areas were last rabi under wheat seed distributed by the department in only six districts :— **Wheat.**

Type of wheat.		*Area in acres.*
Punjab	11	6,637
Punjab	13	706
Punjab	14	438
Pusa	12	702

The Professor of Agriculture hopes to have at least 18,000 acres under Punjab 11, *in the Chenab Colony,* this winter. In Jullundur, Gurdaspur and Hoshiarpur over 2,300 maunds of seed were cleaned and stored by the department and about the same amount is being stored in the Jhelum Colony.

178. In 1914 over 2,000 acres of 4-F American cotton were grown from seed which the department sold in the Chenab Colony: and about 4,000 acres in the Jhelum Colony. The produce (the sale of which the department supervised) fetched a premium of between Rs. 2-5-0 and Rs. 2-8-0 a maund over country cotton. The areas under this cotton this year have been considerably increased: it is estimated that about 6,000 acres is under this cotton this year in the Chenab Colony and 1,500 acres in the Jhelum Colony, in addition to a small area in Montgomery. **Cotton.**

Beisdes the activities mentioned above a good deal of minor work has been done during the year in other directions.

179. The treatment of the moth-borer in young sugarcane by cutting the "dead heart" of the plant out is successful and is increasing in popularity. **Entomology.**

180. The department distributed 165 ounces of fresh seed this year against 136 ounces issued last year. In addition to this seed 374 ounces of seed were imported from France for Shaikh Ghulam Sadiq of Amritsar for distribution among his Gurdaspur rearers. **Sericulture.**

Date Palms.

181. The date palms are doing very well in the south-east of the Province, particularly Muzaffargarh, though the rains last year did considerable damage.

Well-boring.

182. During the year boring work has been carried on in 11 districts, a total of 237 wells having been bored. Six trial borings were made. An increase in water-supply was obtained in 141 of the wells. The percentage of success—59½—is not unsatisfactory, but efforts to increase it are being made.

LOANS TO AGRICULTURISTS.

183. The total of advances made during year under both Acts was Rs. 5,86,250 as compared with 7½ lakhs in the preceding year.

184. Rupees 3,23,365 were advanced for land improvements or three-quarters of a lakh more than in the preceding year. Most of the increase is accounted for by Ferozepore which took over a lakh or one-third of the provincial total. The principal outstanding at the beginning of the year was Rs. 14,63,750 and at the end Rs. 15,65,470. As between the Imperial and Provincial Governments the net financial result to the Punjab on the transactions of the year was a gain of Rs. 33,856. The profit is less than in the preceding year, as the amount outstanding has risen considerably and interest is not usually payable till the improvement begins to yield a return to the borrower.

185. Owing to harvests not being unsatisfactory, the demand for loans under Act XII of 1884 was not keen. The amount advanced was Rs. 2,62,885 as compared with upwards of 5 lakhs in the previous year. Loans were taken mostly for the purchase of cattle and were seldom required for the provision of seed. The outstanding balance of advances has been reduced from Rs. 6,34,941 to Rs. 4,97,652 and the year's working resulted in a profit of Rs. 10,464 to the Provincial Government.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

General.

186. The difficulties of the previous years, caused by the banking crisis, were intensified during the past year (August 1st, 1914, to July 31st, 1915) by the outbreak of war. There was a disposition on the part of depositors to withdraw their deposits, while there was a falling off in fresh deposits. The kharif harvest was greatly below the average and the prices of cotton extraordinarily low; consequently members of societies, so far from being able to repay their loans were obliged to borrow some 10 lakhs from the money-lender. The rabi harvest, which promised to be exceptionally good, did not realize expectations and as the summer rains failed members were obliged to keep their grain for food. There has thus been a general stagnation in the business done by the different classes of societies.

187. In these circumstances it was not possible to increase the number of societies. Seventy new societies were started and 66 ceased working. The number of members has been reduced by the striking off of a number who are not shareholders. Working capital remains much the same as in the previous year. The total figures at the end of the year were :—

	Number.	Members.	Working capital.
			Rs.
Central Societies	40	2,585	53,02,181
Agricultural Societies ...	3,267	154,065	1,36,63,843
Non-agricultural Societies ...	30	2,354	1,84,647

Central Societies.

188. There are 20 Central Banks and 20 Banking Unions. In the Central Banks both individuals and societies are shareholders, individuals predominating. Two additions were made to their number during the past

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

year, *viz.*, the Fazilka Central Bank (Ferozepore District) and the Punjab Government Servants' Society (Lahore District), formerly classed as a non-agricultural society.

189. In spite of apprehensions there was no serious withdrawal of deposits from the Central Banks, loans and deposits at the end of the year being Rs. 24,71,900 as against Rs. 23,96,076 at the end of the previous year, but as the Central Banks were obliged to keep large cash balances to meet possible withdrawals of deposits they were only able to advance 6 lakhs to village societies as against 15 lakhs in the previous year. The share capital of the Central Banks is satisfactory, being 17·3 per cent. of the working capital, but their reserve funds are very small and insufficient to meet a difficult situation.

190. The condition of the Banking Unions resembled that of the Central Banks, but they were able to give more help relatively to the village societies than the Central Banks.

Agricultural Societies.

191. Withdrawal of deposits exceeded receipts by more than 7 lakhs, but this deficiency was more than compensated for by additional share capital. The actual working capital is now Rs. 1,24,34,956 composed as follows :—

	Rs.
Shares	37,37,581
Members' deposits	13,19,869
Non-members' deposits	17,80,815
Loans from Central Societies	40,67,662
Loans from Government	68,529
Profits invested	1,93,624
Profits not invested	12,66,876

This working capital is utilized as follows :—

	Rs.
Cash in hand	7,66,815
Investments	1,93 624
Loans to members	1,14,42,179
Stock	32,336
Other items	2

The Societies' own money (shares and profits) forms nearly 42 per cent. of the working capital.

192. For the reasons given above repayment of loans fell short of the amount repaid in the previous year by nearly 10 lakhs, being Rs. 30½ lakhs as compared with Rs. 40 lakhs. The amount repaid was 19 lakhs less than the amount fixed for repayment by members just before the rabi harvest, at a time when crop prospects were very favourable.

193. Figures from the societies' ledgers show that since Co-operative Societies were started in this province 69½ lakhs of old debts have been paid off by means of loans taken from the societies and 12½ lakhs of mortgage money, resulting in the redemption of some 8,000 acres of land. The fact that this large amount of money has been advanced in the form of long-term loans is one of the reasons for repayments of loans not being more than they are.

194. At the present time each society possesses an average of Rs. 4,000, allowing an average of Rs. 81 as available for loan to each member. This amount of money is sufficient for the requirements of members, provided it comes into sufficiently active circulation.

195. The societies contributed Rs. 67,762 from their profits towards the Indian Imperial Relief Fund, in addition to furnishing a hospital at Jullundur for wounded soldiers and supplying 50 beds for the St. John's Ambulance.

Non-agricultural Societies and other forms of co-operation.

196. There have been no fresh developments during the past year which deserve notice.

VETERINARY AND LIVE-STOCK.

General.

197. The department is steadily gaining the confidence of the people in a greater degree. Thus there are this year more hospitals than last, more castrations were performed, more inoculations effected, and more patients treated at the veterinary hospitals.

198. The College is now in its new and commodious buildings. The move has had a harmful effect on the number of patients brought for treatment to the college, but this doubtless is only temporary. Considering the extraordinary difficulties under which the college worked during the year the results are very satisfactory. Most of the teaching work, lectures, etc., had to be done in the open air, the classes being surrounded by workmen demolishing buildings. In these circumstances, it is but natural that the training of the last year's students suffered somewhat, but, in spite of this, the percentages of passes are only slightly lower than last year. To impart veterinary education of a higher standard at the College sanction has been given for a post-graduate course of one year's instruction in English : this class will be commenced at the beginning of October 1915.

Hospitals.

199. At the close of the year there were 120 hospitals in the province as against 114 last year, the number of cases treated at them having risen from 301,847 during 1913-14 to 317,802 this year. Many Indian gentlemen have offered to build and equip hospitals at their own expense : others have given land to be used as a site for the buildings.

Miscellaneous.

200. The system of instructing Veterinary Inspectors and Veterinary Assistants by means of local conferences adopted last year is proving most successful. During the year meetings were held at Lahore, Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Lyallpur and Ferozepore. The Chief Superintendent has observed a distinct improvement in professional knowledge amongst the old Veterinary Assistants. As during the past year the Department has been giving lectures and demonstrations on veterinary matters in villages, the people are now awakening to the fact that it can and will do a great deal for their cattle if they will only report outbreaks of contagious diseases more punctually, and also take their animals to the hospital for treatment before they get beyond the hope of recovery.

201. During the year 10,767 villages were visited by different members of the veterinary staff on tour and 79,168 animals were treated and castrations performed as against 11,522 villages visited and 102,447 animals treated in 1913-14. This slight decrease is due to temporary weakness of the staff on account of the withdrawal of 27 Veterinary Assistants to military service.

202. Excellent progress continues to be made in cattle-breeding, and the people show an ever-increasing tendency to act on the advice of the officers of the Department. Sheep-breeding is growing in popularity and the demand for three-quarter bred merino sheep is increasing.

GOVERNMENT CATTLE FARM, HISSAR.

203. The Hissar Cattle Farm is maintained by the Local Government and is in charge of an officer of the Civil Veterinary Department.

The objects of the farm are two-fold :—

(1) to supply military requirements in bullock and mules :

(2) to improve the cattle, donkeys, mules and sheep of the Punjab by the issue of high class bulls, donkeys and rams for breeding.

The farm includes some 2,300 acres of cultivation, most of which is under oats, chari (*sorghum vulgare*) and lucerne. Modern ploughs and reaping and threshing machines are used. Chari is siloed in large quantities. There is a large gram store house fitted with an elevator and conveyor bands : and some 10,000 to 20,000 maunds of hay are made in a favourable year.

204. The working of the farm has been satisfactory in spite of severe outbreaks of rinderpest and haemorrhagic septicæmia. The total

receipts rose from Rs. 97,388 to Rs. 1,09,374 and the value of stock from Rs. 5,28,234 to Rs. 5,56,776. Eight hundred and forty-five animals of all sorts were sold during the year as compared with 554 sold in 1913-14, and the farm was able to supply as many as 171 bulls to district boards in the province. There has been a considerable amount of disease on the farm, but good management has prevented a heavier mortality.

CAMEL SPECIALIST.

205. From the beginning of the financial year 1912-13 the control of the Camel Specialist was vested in the Punjab Government : during the year under report the appointment was made permanent. A large number of observations and experiments on treatment of surra, antifly-emulsions, and different camel diseases were carried out. Ninety-eight surra-infected camels belonging to the military authorities were cured during the year, which, at an average price of Rs. 140, represented a saving to Government of Rs. 13,720, as all these camels if they had not been treated would, of necessity, have been destroyed. Some 9,000 camels under the Military Department were tested for surra : and 197 camels belonging to private persons were treated for different diseases.

A printed note on surra in camels has been issued and widely circulated.

The total expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 27,923-3-1 as compared with Rs. 26,047-12-1 last year.

27-A.—Fisheries.

206. Fishery Regulations have been drafted for the Mandi and Suket States and the Suket Regulation has become law. A licensing scheme has been worked out for the Kangra District for the control of fishing by nets and *chhips*. The stock of fish in the sanctuaries has very largely increased.

207. The case of the Gurdaspur fisheries has been investigated. The present system of leasing them to monopolists has nothing to recommend it. But there seems no reason to doubt that, as in the hills so in the plains, systems of conservancy can be evolved which when completed will make the Fisheries Department as a whole self-supporting from the first, and ultimately a source of revenue, and will at the same time protect the fishermen in their industry.

208. Fish culture in the Chenawan and Sukian Murral Ponds and the Madhopur Fish Farm has during the year under report been in the stage of observation and experiment. Deposits of salt seem likely to interfere with the prospects of stocking the Nammal lake. One hundred and sixteen miles of trout water in the hills have stocked and the fish appear to be spawning naturally.

28.—Weather and Crops.

209. The rainfall in the Punjab, with the exception of the south-east dry area, was above normal during the months of February, April and May. The north and west of the Province, in particular, profited. Conditions were thus generally favourable for sowings of cane and irrigated cotton. The monsoon set in early, about the end of the third week of June, giving sufficient moisture for unirrigated sowings everywhere except in parts of the south-east. It was more active than usual during the greater part of July, and heavy and widespread precipitation occurred during the latter half of that month. Good rain also fell during the first ten days of August, after which a long break ensued. This was at first beneficial, the July rainfall having been excessive ; but the interval was too prolonged, and was followed by excessively heavy rain in the second and third weeks of September. Taken as a whole, however, the monsoon rainfall of 1914 was favourably distributed. Proportionately, the Multan Division was most liberally treated, Dera Ghazi Khan recording 2½ times its average rainfall and nearly every other district of the division receiving Character of the season.

double its usual quantity. In the rest of the Province the excess ranged from 20 per cent. up to as much as 50 per cent. in Jullundur, Gurdaspur and Lahore. There were only four exceptions to the general good fortune: Rawalpindi having to rest content with a 10 per cent. excess, while Sialkot, Jhelum and Gujrat suffered from actual deficiency which was serious only in the case of the last named.

210. Winter disturbances appearing unusually early gave abnormally heavy rain, followed by hail and low temperatures, in October and November, with the result that considerable havoc was done to cotton and autumn cereals. The rain in the beginning of August and mid-September left abundance of moisture in the soil for the sowing of the spring crop. In December precipitation was normal, but in January in defect: so that the condition of the unirrigated crops began to cause some anxiety. This was relieved by heavy and widespread rain in the second and third weeks of February and the second week of March. The unirrigated crop in the south-east and west especially benefited, and generally showed exceptional promise. The rest of March was fine, but was succeeded by very unsettled weather (including thunder-storms) in the first fortnight of April. The result was damage to the crop in the sub-montane and central tract. The clear but unusually hot weather which followed, while favourable to harvesting operations, had in parts of the Province an adverse effect on the outturn.

Sown and cropped areas.

211. Owing to favourable conditions at seed time the total sown area was 16 per cent. greater than in the previous year and 13 per cent. higher than the normal, while the total matured area showed advances of 23 and 21 per cent., respectively, on the previous year on the normal.

Chief staples.

212. The sown area of wheat amounted to 9,915,507 acres—an increase of 17 per cent. on last year and 16 per cent. better than the normal. This expansion is to be attributed to the contraction in the sowings of cotton, rise in prices due to the war and an exceptionally favourable season. Nearly the whole increase was in unirrigated area which represented 54 per cent. of the whole. Except for the unseasonable weather late in March and early in April the season was favourable and the total outturn is estimated at 3,396,453 tons or 32 per cent. above the normal, the percentage for irrigated and unirrigated wheat, respectively, being 116 and 159.

213. The outturn of the other principal crops as compared with the estimated normal outturn is given in the following table:—

Name of crop.	Outturn in percentage of estimated normal.
Gram	163
Barley	116
Cotton	134
Jowar	60
Rice	116
Bajra	104
Maize	67
Sugarcane	96
Oilseeds	102

214. The total irrigated area was $11\frac{3}{4}$ million acres or 37 per cent. of the sown area. This is equal to the figures of last year. Of the total irrigated area 64 per cent. was flushed from Government canals.

Harvest prices.

215. The most important variations in the harvest prices of the valuable staples were in cotton, sugar and wheat. The first named was most affected by the war and the fall from an average of Rs. 6-11-0 to Rs. 4-4-0 owing to contraction in exports is remarkable. Raw sugar rose

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

from Rs. 4-2-0 per maund to Rs. 4-6-0, the increase being of course accounted for by the decline in imports. Wheat averaged Rs. 3-8-0 against Rs. 3-2-0 last year. The rise was less than might have been expected but for the special conditions attaching to exports. The harvest prices of the cheaper kharif food-grains such as jowar, bajra, and maize were generally considerably higher than in the previous twelve months. The average prices of gram and barley, on the other hand, declined, respectively, from Rs. 2-15-0 and Rs. 2-6-0 last year to Rs. 2-12-0 and Rs. 2-5-0 owing to the drop in export to the United Provinces and foreign countries and to the success of the harvests. The fall in the price of rapeseed from Rs. 5-8-0 to Rs. 4-6-0, due to the falling off in the demand, was particularly marked.

216. Stocks of grain are said to be generally sufficient, and several districts report that large quantities are being kept off the market on speculation for a substantial rise in prices.

29.—Horticulture.

217. There was a decrease of Rs. 295 in the income from the sale of garden produce compared with last year and an increase of about Rs. 7,000 in expenditure. The increase was principally due to improvements carried out on the mounds, the purchase of a new watering cart, and the considerable amount of cleaning, levelling and grassing done in the gardens. **Argi-Horticultural Gardens, Lahore.**

218. Progress was made in several directions during the year. The roads are now lit by electricity and the dust nuisance has been diminished. The reclamation and planting of the unsightly plot known as Dhoop Sarai is a marked improvement. The growth made by eucalyptus rudis is very striking.

219. There are 23 boys in the three gardening classes as against 25 in the last year. Five boys were promoted from the Mali to the Chaudhri class; two of them accepted outside posts, one in the Canal Department, and the other in a Native State, before completing their *Chaudhri class* course. The Chaudhri class turned out two successful candidates, one of whom secured the post of an Arboriculture Darogha under a district board and the other a Chaudhri's post in a Native State.

30.—Forests.

220. The area of Departmental Reserved Forests decreased by 161 acres. In Multan 19,290 acres (30 square miles) were notified as Reserved Forest for Khanewal *plantation. Fifty*-eight acres were gained by river action, 70 acres by rectification of boundaries. In Montgomery Division 11,055 acres (17 *square miles)* were given up for colonization purposes, *7,894 acres* were *transferred to Unclassed Forests* and there was a further decrease of 630 acres due to various causes. **Alteration in area.**

221. There was a net decrease of 794,724 acres in the area of Protected Forests due principally to the transfer of large areas to the head of Unclassed Forests preparatory to colonization: in addition rather more than 50,000 acres in the Nurpur Tahsil, Kangra District, were transferred to the management of the Deputy Commissioner.

222. There was a net decrease of 257 acres in the area of Leased Forests, principally due to the grant of small areas for cultivation in the Bashahr State.

223. The total area of the different classes of Forests under the Forest Department at the close of the year was :—

	Acres.	*Square miles.*
Reserved Forests	1,151,832	1,800
Protected "	2,535,012	3,961
Unclassed State Forests	1,351,397	2,111
Local Forests ...	233,672	365
Total ...	5,271,917	8,237

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Of this 1,257,891 acres contain tree growth, while 4,014,022 acres are practically without forest tree growth.

Forest Settlements.

224. An area of 19,290 acres (30 square miles) near Khanewal in Multan Division was notified as Reserved Forest under Section 19 of the Indian Forest Act with a view to the formation of an irrigated plantation. The settlement of the area to be reserved for the Chichawatni irrigated plantation (Montgomery Division) was not completed by the close of the year. The revision of the Sutlej Valley Forest Settlement, affecting the Leased Forests of the Bashahr State, still remained in abeyance, as there was no officer available for the work.

Demarcation.

225. During the year there was a net decrease of 73 miles in the total length of boundaries artificially demarcated, which was mainly due to abandonment of area in the Montgomery Division for colonization purposes and to the transfer of certain Protected Forests in the Kangra Division to the management of the Civil Department. The total expenditure on demarcation during the year was Rs. 3,898 as against Rs. 3,354 in the year 1913-14.

Surveys.

226. During the year no survey was undertaken by the Survey Department and no expenditure on account of Forest Surveys was debited to the Forest Department.

Working Plan.

227. No new Working Plans were sanctioned during the year, but the revision of the Murree-Kahuta Working Plan, which provides for double the yield of the old plan, was completed and acted upon. The Browsing Schemes for Silladar Camel Corps, which were under consideration last year, made as much progress as could be expected in view of the necessity of referring each scheme to a number of different authorities. All the schemes should be ready before the end of next year.

228. Some progress was made during the year on the revision of the Kangra Working Plan which cannot be completed, however, in less than two years. Considerable progress was made with the revision of the Dharmsala Municipal Forests Working Plan and it is hoped to finish the plan by the cold weather of 1915-16. The completion of the Pabar Valley Working Plan was delayed as Mr. Gibson was fully occupied in the Simla and Resin Divisions. The provisions of the Working Plans were generally worked up to. No preliminary Working Plan reports were prepared or sanctioned during the year. Plans of Operations were drawn up, as usual, for all forests and their provisions were generally carried out.

Communications and buildings (roads and bridges).

229. Ten miles of cart roads and 58 miles of paths were constructed during the year as compared with 40 miles of cart roads and 94 miles of paths in the previous year; while 1,205 miles of roads and paths were repaired against 1,181 miles repaired in 1913-14. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 46,205 as against Rs. 53,026 and Rs. 32,510 during the two preceding years.

Buildings.

230. The total expenditure on buildings during the year amounted to Rs. 69,533 against Rs. 62,584 in the previous year. Of this Rs. 53,869 were spent on new works, Rs. 10,968 on repairs and the balance on building material and temporary establishment. The increase is mainly due to the construction of new Resin Factory buildings at Jallo to replace those damaged by floods at Shahdara and to accommodate the new distillery plant purchased last year.

General protection.

231. The total number of cases of Forest offences reported during the year was 9,736 as compared with 11,951 cases during 1913-14 and 10,386 the average of the three preceding years: there was thus a decrease of 2,215 cases as compared with last year's figures and of 650 cases as compared with the past three years' average.

232. Fire cases show an increase over last year's figures of 142 cases, the increase being almost entirely in Rawalpindi and Kangra Divisions where there was a serious outbreak of incendiarism, which formed the subject of careful investigation at the close of the year. The number of

cases taken into court was 914 against 908 in 1913-14. Convictions were obtained in 823 cases which gives a percentage of 89·94 as compared with 88·11 in the previous year. The protection of forests in Kangra and Rawalpindi Divisions has been facilitated to some extent by the heavy punishments awarded by the Courts. Under Section 67 of the Indian Forest Act 8,451 cases involving 12,045 persons were compounded during the year for Rs. 34,826.

Fire protection.

233. The year has been most unfavourable for fire protection as the area burnt was 41,578 acres (65 square miles), being the highest on record since 1895-96. The main increase was in Rawalpindi and Kangra Divisions. In the former Division 17,873 acres were burnt as against 10 acres in 1913-14 and in the latter Division 15,268 acres as compared with 1,910 acres in the previous year. Three hundred and two fires occurred during the year. The percentage of area burnt to the total area under the Forest Department was 0·8 as compared with 0·1 in 1913-14. In Kangra the fires were probably lit to obtain fresh grass, while it is possible that a serious outbreak of incendiarism in the Siran Forests of the Hazara District, bordering on the Murree Tahsil, caused the Rawalpindi villagers to follow the bad example set them by their neighbours.

Protection from cattle.

234. Of the total area of 8,237 square miles under the charge of the Forest Department 1,398 square miles were entirely or partially closed to grazing, or 16·97 per cent. of the total as compared with 17·25 per cent. in 1913-14. The area closed to all animals rose from 515 square miles to 528 square miles. The number of cattle impounded during the year under report was 14,761 as against 19,740 in 1913-14.

Reproduction (Natural and Artificial).

235. (i) *Natural.*—In coniferous forests the year under report proved a poor seed year for all species and in the case of Chir it was a failure throughout the province. Natural reproduction of broad-leaved species from seed was generally adequate wherever it was possible to prevent overgrazing. The same was the case with Coppice reproduction.

236. (ii) *Artificial.*—In Chichawatni plantation 504 acres were operated upon and secondary *khals*, pasels and trenches were excavated in this area at a cost of Rs 5,591. The net area trenched but unsown at the close of the previous year was 469 acres and 504 acres were trenched during the year, making a total of 973 acres available for sowing. Of this 433 acres were sown during the year, leaving a balance of 540 acres unsown at the close of the year. The total expenditure on sowing was Rs. 916. The supply of water was most erratic and gave cause for considerable anxiety as to the success of the work.

237. In Kot Lakhpat plantation 155 acres were sown during the year, 2,148 acres with shisham by the trench system and 7 acres with kikar after ploughing. The shisham sowings were all successful except on various small patches of "Kallar", while kikar as usual completely failed. The water-supply being unsatisfactory, sowings could only be carried out on a reduced scale. The total expenditure on the plantation during the year was Rs. 4,169, while the revenue realised was Rs. 3,154.

238. In the Pabbi Forest 485 acres were trenched and sown with the seed of "Phulai," "Sanatha," "Pathaki" and "Sakur." The total expenditure in the Pabbi amounted to Rs. 862.

Cultural operations.

239. Cultural operations on a small scale were conducted in all the divisions, hills and plains. The opening balance of the areas under treatment was 4,752 acres : the additional areas treated were 848 acres : 115 acres were transferred to "forest," 11 acres "burnt" and 2,309 acres struck off as failures. Excluding the expenditure on Chichawatni and Kot Lakhpat plantations and the Pabbi, the total expenditure on new works was Rs. 1,628.

Experiments.

240. Various species of eucalyptus were given trial, but experiments on an extensive scale were made only in the Simla Hill States. At the close of the year a fair amount of germination had taken place, but it is more than doubtful if sowings on a large scale will meet with success. In Changa Manga it has been found that "Eucalyptus tereticornis" and "E. rostrata" do better than any other species tried. Spanish Chestnut has done well in Kulu, where spare plants were distributed amongst the villagers. The sowings of "Maclura Aurantiara" in Lahore Division have proved a success after the seed has lain dormant for over a year. "Cryptostegia grandiflora" in Kangra and the Pabbi is kept back by excess both of heat and cold, but appears to maintain itself in spite of this.

Outturn of Forest produce.

241. The outturn of forest produce was greater under nearly every head than in the previous year, the outturn of timber showing an increase of about 6¼ lbs. of cubic feet and of firewood an increase of nearly 11 million cubic feet.

Financial results.

242. The revenue and expenditure were Rs. 14,66,593 and Rs. 9,02,454, respectively, as compared with Rs. 13,57,527 and Rs. 9,25,748 in the previous year. These figures indicate an increase of receipts and a decrease of expenditure over last year's by Rs. 1,09,066 and Rs 23,330, respectively, and is very gratifying.

ARBORICULTURE.

243. The triennial report was submitted last year.

31.—Mines and Quarries.

Indian Mines Act.

244. The number of mines worked during 1914 was 22. They consisted of 4 Government salt mines, 9 coal mines (six in Jhelum, one in Mianwali and two in Shahpur District); 8 slate mines (four each in Gurgaon and Kangra); and one limestone quarry at Hoshiarpur. No new prospecting licenses for coal were given. From the four Government salt mines in the Salt Range, 135,517 tons of salt were extracted compared with 1,38,541 tons in 1913. As regards coal, the outturn rose from 51,040 tons during 1913 to 53,774 tons during 1914, showing an increase of 2,734 tons: the output in Shahpur was 6,879 tons, in Mianwali 1,028 tons and in Jhelum 45,866 tons. The total value of the coal extracted was Rs. 2,80,419 or Rs. 21,614 more than in 1913. From the 8 slate mines 9,169 tons of slate were taken, worth Rs. 1,16,445.

Other minerals.

245. The minerals which do not come under the Indian Mines Act are (a) Gold by washing, (b) Petroleum, (c) Alum shale, (d) Block kankar, (e) Limestone, (f) Gypsum, (g) Antimony ore, (h) Building and sandstone. The outturn and value of the minerals recovered during 1914 have been as follows :—

District.	Mineral recovered.	Value. Rs. A. P.
Ambala, Jhelum, Mianwali and Attock ...	Gold, 249·98 oz.	14,904 15 8
Mianwali	Petroleum, 1,200 gallons	192 0 0
Ditto	Alum shale, 4,234 tons	4,102 2 0
Ambala	Block kankar, 1,738 tons	3,407 4 0
Jhelum	Limestone, 29,030 tons	1,975 10 8
Ditto	Gypsum, 2,620 tons	178 5 2
Ditto	Antimony ore, 9·17 lbs.	54 0 0
Simla	Building stone, 3,762 tons	879 0 0
Jhelum	Sandstone, 60,818 tons	95,571 0 0

246. The Attock Oil Company hold prospecting licenses for mineral oil over 55½ square miles in the Attock District. Sanction was also given during August to the grant to the Burma Oil Company of four prospecting licenses over an area of 16·95 square miles in the same district. The former Company has applied for a mining lease over 4 square miles and is boring for petroleum. A good supply of oil has been struck

The materials for a million gallon capacity storage tank are on the way. Other applications for prospecting licenses for mineral oil in the Rawalpindi Division are also being received.

32 —Manufactures.

247. The number of factories subject to inspection under the Act has decreased from 224 to 201, of which 197 actually worked for some periods of the year. Of the 197 factories working, 133 factories were inspected once, 41 factories twice, 10 factories thrice and three factories more than three times. On the whole the supply of drinking water in factories is both good and adequate : sanitary arrangements are fairly satisfactory and cleanliness in ginning factories shows improvements. The general lighting and ventilation arrangements however are not very satisfactory though better than formerly. A noteworthy case occurred in the Monotype Press at Simla : it was found that many of the employees were suffering from lead poisoning, which was easily traceable to the fumes rising from the pots containing the molten type metal in the monotype. Additional ventilation has now been provided, hoods have been fitted over the pots, and the harmful fumes are drawn away through ducts to the outside air by means of an exhaust fan, as is the case with all monotype machines in England.

248. The average daily number of employees in all the factories in question was 31,243 compared with a total number of 31,709 last year : the figures for adult females and child workers being 3,749 and 1,132 compared with 3,864 and 792 in the previous year. The wages of skilled employees in ginning factories usually vary with the output, a considerable bonus being in many cases added to the monthly wage : nor is the classification of the operatives clear-cut ; for instance, a man going by the name of 'fitter' receives anything from 18 to 55 rupees per month. The wages of unskilled labourers vary according to the demand in the particular district and also with the working hours. A coolie generally gets from Re. 0-6-6 to Re. 0-8-6 per day, while in ginning factories the rate of wages is Re. 0-4-6 to Re. 0-5-6 in the case of men and Re. 0-3-6 to Re. 0-5-0 in the case of women : children get from two to two-and-a-half annas a day. The employees in factories are generally healthy. There were in all 227 accidents (11 fatal as compared with 231 last year. Many of the accidents were due to inadequate fencing. The employment of women and children for excessive hours is less common than it was, owing to the success which attended the prosecutions instituted by the Inspector of Factories and to the warning and advice which he has given to the factory managers : of the 13 prosecutions which were undertaken none were unsuccessful.

33.—Trade.

Internal Rail and River borne Trade.

249. The shadow of the great war fell heavily on the commercial activities of the Province. The total value of exports of merchandise from the Punjab in 1914-15 fell short of the imports by more than 3½ crores. This is a reversion to the state of affairs in 1911-12 when the value figures for exports were almost identical with those of the year under review. The decline in the exports of cotton, rapeseed and inferior grains accounts for this shortage. General.

250. Under net imports the chief increases are of jowar and bajra, Rs. 91 lakhs ; of husked rice, Rs. 67 lakhs (due to dearness of wheat) ; cotton seed, Rs. 23 lakhs (owing to scarcity of fodder in the south-east dry area) ; unrefined sugar, Rs. 11 lakhs ; gunny bags, Rs. 7 lakhs ; and raw wool Rs. 5 lakhs. Carriages and trucks, steel rails, etc., also show an expansion of Rs. 42 lakhs, which indicates the Railway extension proceeding in the province. The main decreases are under foreign piece-goods, Rs. 159 lakhs, and Indian piece-goods, Rs. 18 lakhs (attributable to a glut in the market and short demand) : refined sugar, Rs. 101 Imports.

lakhs (accounted for by stoppage of Continental sugar export and diversion of the Java crop to Europe); and metals, Rs. 53 lakhs (owing to decreased requirements for Imperial Delhi).

Exports.

251. The influence of the war is even more manifest in exports. The most important increase in net exports is under wheat which advanced by Rs. 184 lakhs. Wheat flour also increased by Rs. 9 lakhs. Owing to high prices the total value of exports of grain and pulses is Rs. 30 lakhs higher. Enhanced prices for leather give an increase in total value of Rs. 6 lakhs. Another interesting (and perhaps not unexpected) rise was one of Rs. 4½ lakhs in saltpetre, the bulk of which comes from the Cis-Sutlej block. With the foreign demand cut off, exports of raw cotton declined by Rs. 516 lakhs and of rape and mustard seed by Rs. 286 lakhs. Other grains fell off by Rs. 88 lakhs. There was no demand by the United Provinces and barley was not exported. Similarly hides and raw Indian silk decreased by Rs. 30 lakhs and Rs. 7 lakhs, respectively.

Treasure.

252. The net imports of gold coin and bullion decreased by Rs. 164½ lakhs. On the other hand imports of silver coin rose by no less than Rs. 52½ lakhs. This difference is explained by the free encashment of notes at district treasuries and the abnormal disbursements of the Post Office on account of withdrawn savings bank deposits which occurred in the excitement of the early days of the war. Silver bullion increased by Rs. 22½ lakhs. Imports during the previous financial year had been low and exports very high.

TRANS-FRONTIER TRADE.

General.

253. In 1914-15 the balance of trade set in favour of the Punjab by over Rs. 3¾ lakhs. Compared with the year 1913-14 imports declined in weight by nearly 9½ thousand maunds and in value by over Rs. 3½ lakhs. Exports also dropped by over 9½ thousand maunds in weight and Rs. 2½ lakhs in value. The trade with Central Asia registered at Leh is chiefly responsible for these differences.

Afghanistan.

254. A decline in imports of 1,960 maunds, valued at Rs. 43,000, and in exports of over 4,400 maunds, valued at Rs. 19,500, was recorded as compared with last year's figures. In imports, the heaviest fall was in fruit and vegetables, ascribed to an unfavourable season in Afghanistan. The import of wool practically ceased owing to the prohibition of export from his country by His Majesty the Amir noted last year. A decrease in export of foreign piece-goods was more than counterbalanced by an increase in export of Indian cotton piece and manufactured leather goods. Owing to the high price of food-grains in India the export of rice fell off by over 4,500 maunds, valued at Rs. 23,000. This single item covers the whole retrogression in the export trade. The decline in the figures for green tea (which however rose in value) is attributed to the stocks in Afghanistan being sufficient.

Central Asia.

255. The trade of Central Asia is the most important. The total exports to Central Asia exceeded the total imports from that country by Rs. 6 lakhs. Compared with last year the maundage of imports only fell off slightly, but the value decreased by over two lakhs. This is almost accounted for by the decreased value of the charas imported. In weight it was short of the previous year's imports by less than 500 maunds : in value it declined by over Rs. 2 lakhs, owing to the inferiority of its quality and accumulation of stocks in the Punjab. The raw silk imports, while actually in slight excess of those of the previous year, were valued at Rs. 35,000 less, thanks to the poor quality of the Khotan crop. The increases in exports are under intoxicating drugs, unmanufactured leather and provisions, while there are considerable decreases under foreign piece-goods (cotton), silk, woollen and other manufactured goods, and numerous other articles. The explanation given by the Assistant Resident of Leh is that trade passing through Ladakh waxes and wanes in alternate years, because traders make the double journey from the Punjab to Chinese Turkistan and back every second year. The principal men, either by design or coincidence, are

generally to be found moving in the same direction in the same year. In the 12 months under review no well-known Hoshiarpur trader was on the road.

256. The weight of imports was little more than half that of last year, although the value was only 25 per cent. less. Borax, which had come to be regarded as a moribund trade, showed a further advance on last year's figures. Raw wool shews a huge fall of nearly Rs. 1 lakh, which is ascribed not very satisfactorily to ordinary trade fluctuations. Salt imports continue to decline as the cheaper and better class Indian salt gains in favour. Chinese Tibet.

257. Exports were a bare one-third of those of 1913-14, but actually rose in value by 18 per cent. This is to be accounted for by diminished export of grains and increased export of more expensive manufactured articles such as brass and copper, cotton and woollen goods, etc. The expansion in tea exports is satisfactory.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

258. The number of registered companies with share capital working on 31st March 1915 shows a large decrease as compared with the previous year, the actual figures being 99 as against 146. Only 6 new companies were registered during the period under report, while no less than 52 came to grief. In addition one company was lost by transfer to the Bombay Presidency. Even these figures however do not represent the real position for there is a further batch of 15 companies which are at a standstill, but which had not before the close of the financial year sent official intimation of their liquidation.

259. Of the new companies registered during the year, two were banks, two trading companies, while the remaining two were connected with a mill and a brewery, respectively. As their names—the new Peoples Bank and the New Doaba Bank—suggest, the two banks were floated mainly with the object of assisting the liquidation of two concerns, the Peoples Bank and the Doaba Bank, which had been obliged to close their doors. The New Doaba Bank, however, appears to have been still-born, while at the end of March, the New Peoples Bank had not commenced business.

260. Of the 52 companies, which are shown as having succumbed during the year, 14 really belong to the previous year, but had either failed to send intimation or had omitted to follow prescribed procedure in respect of liquidation. The details of the 52 companies are as follows:—

Banking Companies	19
Insurance Company	1
Trading Companies	22
Mills and Presses	5
Mining and Quarrying Company	1
Land and Building Companies	2
Sugar Manufacturing Companies	2
	52

261. In all probability many of these companies would have come into the hands of liquidators even in normal times, but their fall has been accelerated partly owing to the general financial situation in the province aggravated by the war and partly owing to the new Companies Act which, *inter alia*, put a stop to the farcical and highly pernicious system of reciprocal audit. The failure of so many companies is no doubt a serious blow to the industrial development of the Province and for some time to come the course and extent of investments may be affected, but in the long run the present losses may prove to have been most beneficial. The removal of a number of rubbishy and dishonest concerns will clear the way for the growth of sounder companies under more able management and hedged round by the more stringent provisions of the New Act.

262. In the face of the facts mentioned above it is not surprising to find a large decrease in the nominal, subscribed and paid-up capital. The figures are as follows :—

				Rs.
Authorised capital	...	...	...	3,15,03,000
Subscribed capital	...	...	...	54,31,930
Paid-up capital	...	...	...	12,59,365

These large deficits make their appearance in spite of the fact that during the year 93 lakhs of authorised, 29 lakhs of subscribed and 17 lakhs of paid-up capital were added. The proportion of paid-up to authorised capital is now rather over one-third.

263. A special judicial officer, with head-quarters at Lahore, has now been placed in charge of the Provincial liquidations. As a result the work receives full and careful attention and delays are reduced to a minimum. Various criminal acts on the part of fraudulent directors have been brought to light. As a result of a successful prosecution the Managing Director of the Hindustan Bank is now serving a four years' sentence, confirmed by the Chief Court. Action of this kind will lead to a more healthy state of things in the directorate ; in too many cases at present it consists of one or two clever rascals supported by a few incompetent figure heads.

264. It may safely be affirmed that the new Act has had a most wholesome effect. As regards audit, the full benefit has not yet been obtained because it was thought inexpedient to interfere with appointments made for the year under report prior to the 1st April 1914. But even so a great improvement in the quality of the work is manifest and share-holders have now a fair opportunity of ascertaining the true position of affairs. Though it has not been found necessary to report any company under section 137 (5) of the Act, several calls for further information have been made under section 137 (1) and the fact that such a provision exists constitutes a considerable safeguard from the public point of view.

34.—Buildings and Roads.

Total expenditure.

265. The total outlay on Public Works in the Buildings and Roads Branch amounted to nearly 83 lakhs. Though this is less than in 1913-14 it is higher than in any previous year.

Imperial Civil Works.

266. The outlay was nearly 3 lakhs of which Rs. 1,93,000 was on Original Works, Rs. 56,000 on repairs and the remainder on establishment and Tools and Plant. The chief works executed were at Simla where new quarters for peons at the General Post Office, extensions of the Government Monotype Press, and horse shelters at Viceregal Lodge have been constructed.

Imperial Military Works.

267. Expenditure Rs. 66,000, of which Rs. 24,000 was on Original Works- chiefly for water-supply to the Cantonment at Dharmsala and stallion stables at Kasur and Rs. 31,000 on repairs.

Provincial Civil Works.

268. The outlay on Original Works was 42 lakhs and on repairs 17½ lakhs—total 59½ lakhs. A large portion of the building construction in the Province has been carried out at Lahore where the principal works executed or in hand are :—

The King Edward Memorial which consists of extensions to the Mayo Hospital and construction of new buildings for the Medical College Research Institute, Nurses' Quarters, Indian Family and Private Wards, Quarters for European and Indian Staff and for servants. Sanction of the Secretary of State to the project for 36 lakhs was only received in November, so not more than Rs. 3,62,000 could be spent during the year and this was chiefly on the extensions to the Mayo Hospital, to commence which permission had previously been obtained in anticipation of sanction to the entire scheme. Of the total estimated cost of 36 lakhs, 17 lakhs has been contributed by private subscriptions.

A commencement was made by collection of material for much needed alterations and extensions to the Government House, Lahore, which was originally the tomb of Mohammad Kasim Khan who died in Lahore in the reign of the Emperor Shah Jahan and it was occupied as a residence by one of the Sikh Sirdars in the time of Ranjit Singh and since the mutiny of 1857 has been utilised as the residence of the Chief Commissioner and subsequently of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The new Veterinary College at Lahore which had been commenced last year was practically completed at a cost of $6\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of which $3\frac{1}{4}$ were spent during the year.

A new building for the Government Press at Lahore has also been finished at cost of $2\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs, of which 1 lakh was spent during the year.

Owing to the difficulty experienced by officers in finding suitable houses at Lahore a scheme was prepared for the construction of official residences. The project requires the sanction of the Secretary of State, but as a preliminary measure permission was accorded to thepurchase of a site and $5\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs has heen expended on this. The site selected is the old golf links between the main road to Lahore Cantonment and the Race Course.

The road bridge over the Ravi at Lahore, a short distance below the North-Western Railway bridge, was com pleted at a total cost of 6 lakhs, of which Rs. 1,16,000 were spent in the year.

Progress on the Grain Elevator at Lyallpur was much delayed owing to a change in the proposals for working it which prevented the indent for machinery being prepared and submitted to the Director-General of Stores in time for him to comply with it.

The foundations have been completed and of the super structure about $\frac{3}{4}$ was finished at the end of the year.

269. Many improvements have been made in the communications of the Province. Besides the Ravi bridge above mentioned, bridges over the Beas and Sutlej have been opened for traffic and the old Railway bridge over the Jumna near Saharanpur is being converted for road traffic; the work is being carried out by the United Provinces Government and expenditure shared between the two Provinces. Plans and estimates for connecting this bridge with Jagadhri by a new metalled road are in hand. **Communications.**

270. The road from Rawalpindi to Murree has been much improved by widening the metalled surface in 17 miles from 12 feet to 16 feet and much useful work has been done on the Hindustan-Tibet Road in the construction of several short diversions and realignments which improve the gradients and thereby facilitate traffic.

271. A new subsidiary jail at Sargodha was completed at cost of Rs. 45,000 and sub-jails at Amritsar and Lower Dharmsala. **Jails.**

272. Police and Education buildings again as in last year account for a large item of the Provincial expenditure. **Police.**

273. Improved quarters for Police officials, chiefly Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, have been built at most of the district head-quarters and elsewhere and a large Kotwali--a handsome building, designed by Sardar Bahadur Bhai Ram Singh, M. V. O.,--was constructed on a fine site in the Landa Bazar at Lahore. The total expenditure on Police buildings during the year was $6\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.

274. High Schools with hostels attached at Dera Ghazi Khan and Dharmsala and a Normal School at Lyallpur have been completed and High Schools with Boarding Houses were under construction at Lyallpur, Sialkot, Gujranwala, Gurdaspur and Hoshiarpur. **Educational.**

275. A large new Biological Laboratory for Government College, Lahore, was completed and work commenced on a Physics Laboratory.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

A Preparatory School for Boys for the Aitchison College has been erected on a site opposite the Queen Mary's College at Lahore.

The total expenditure on Educational buildings was 9 lakhs.

Medical.

276. A Civil Hospital at Dera Ghazi Khan has been completed and good progress made on additions to the Walker Hospital, Simla, on which Rs. 1,11,000 were spent.

Additions have been made to the Lunatic Asylum and to the Vaccine Institute, Lahore, and a Hospital Dispensary at Lower Dharmsala completed and occupied.

Sanitary Works.

277. The most important sanitary work carried out has been the Sialkot water-supply—estimated cost 4½ lakhs—which was started in November 1913 and nearly completed at the end of March 1915.

Owing to a fall in the water level the pumps of the Ambala water-supply at Handisra were lowered and have been working satisfactorily since.

Extension to the water supply schemes at Toba Tek Singh and Chak Jumra have been completed and drainage schemes at Gurdaspur, Chiniot and Chuhar Kana.

Contribution Works.

278. A hospital at Dera Ghazi Khan was completed at cost of Rs. 32,000 and a dispensary at Tandlianwala and the construction of a hospital at Hissar was in hand. Extensions to the Punjab University Library at Lahore were started.

279. The influence of the war has been felt in this as in other departments and many works have been retarded and their cost enhanced owing to the difficulty and expense of obtaining material of European manufacture.

All Royal Engineer Officers, 5 in number, below the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel were recalled to military duty and 3 Civil Engineers out of many volunteers were selected and are doing duty with Army.

34 A.—Railways and Tramways.

280. On the North-Western Railway the number of miles of open line is now 5,329, and 158 miles are under construction or sanctioned for construction. The total capital outlay up to 1914-15 amounts to £60,269,000. The gross earnings were Rs. 9,22,24,000 and the working expense Rs. 5,66,13,000. Net earnings amounted to Rs. 3,56,11,000. The percentage of net earnings on total capital outlay amounted to 3·78.

281. Considerable progress was made with the scheme for completing the net work of railways designed to serve the rich tract of country between the upper waters of the Beas and Sutlej, known as the Jullundur Doab. Work began in November 1911, and the line was opened in sections for passenger traffic from 1st January 1913 to 15th June 1914, when the Sutlej Bridge of 20 spans of 100 feet was completed. There has been no goods traffic to speak of since the whole line was open, but the passenger traffic alone has given handsome returns and shows that, when in normal years the considerable surplus crops are exported to Karachi, the line will fully justify the expenditure on its construction.

282. The yards at Lahore and Amritsar, two of the most important stations on the line, were extensively remodelled. Twenty-five new stations were built, though several of these have been necessitated by military considerations rather than by the requirements of ordinary public traffic. The new Carriage and Wagon Shops at Lahore were recently completed, and the new Locomotive Shops are fast approaching completion.

283. Owing to the great increase in the mileage and volume of traffic it was found that the Traffic Department could no longer be efficiently supervised by one Traffic Manager. Proposals were accordingly submitted to the

Secretary of State for bringing into operation separate Commercial and Transportation Departments as in the case of European and American Railways; the one to deal with the commercial side of traffic working, including rates and claims, and the other to deal with transportation and passenger traffic. It is hoped that these arrangements will enable the Transportation Department to exercise that close check which is so essential to efficient working, and the Commercial Department to specialise in its branch of the work, and thus permit the latter to give the many budding industries in the province the special attention which is necessary for their development. The outbreak of the war and the consequent surrender of staff for military duty has temporarily interfered with the completion of the change, which will be carried out as opportunity offers.

35.—Irrigation.

General.

284. The direct receipts and expenditure of the Irrigation Department during the year were Rs. 2,54,30,527 and Rs. 1,77,54,953, respectively, as against Rs. 2,44,78,716 and Rs. 22,14,14,460, the average of the previous triennium. The expenditure as divided between Capital and Working Expenses amounting to Rs. 76,16,453 and Rs. 1,01,38,500, respectively, the former included Rs. 68,23,402 expended on the construction of the triple canals during the year. In addition to the direct receipts the indirect revenue credited to the canals on account of enhanced land revenue, etc., amounted to Rs. 111·53 lakhs as compared with Rs. 88·95 lakhs, the average of the previous triennium.

285. The total area irrigated by works of all kinds and the area matured amounted to 8,963,041 and 8,615,506 acres, respectively, showing an increase of 636,666 and 608,441 acres, respectively, over the figures of 1913-14 and of 547,414 and 721,726 acres over those of the previous triennium. The area was, in fact, a record one, due to the unusually favourable conditions that obtained during the year for agricultural operations.

286. The financial results of the operations of canals classed as Productive Major Works and the area irrigated by each is shown in the following statement:—

1	2	3	4	5	6	
					Percentage of profit on the capital outlay.	
Name of Canal.	Area irrigated.	Gross income.	Working expenses.	Net income.	Excluding interest charges.	Including interest charges.
	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		
Western Jumna Canal ...	875,841	32,24,740	13,78,175	18,46,565	10·44	7·11
Sirhind Canal ...	1,282,781	39,12,938	11,98,243	27,14,695	10·65	7·32
Upper Bari Doab Canal ...	1,194,989	43,99,649	14,61,553	29,38,096	13·65	10·27
Lower Chenab Canal ...	2,312,213	1,55,86,354	23,32,569	1,32,53,785	41·81	38·42
Lower Jhelum Canal ...	821,488	43,64,474	8,87,219	34,77,255	21·8	18·38
Upper Sutlej Canal ...	439,679	6,11,930	3,48,373	2,63,557	14·59	11·29
Sidhnai Canals ...	331,659	6,72,544	1,58,230	5,14,314	38·61	35·13
Indus Canals ...	228,892	4,25,502	4,14,151	11,351	0·40	—3·0
Upper Chenab Canal ...	211,882	8,25,826	7,75,292	50,534	0·15	—3·17
Lower Bari Doab Canal ...	189,204	5,38,488	3,70,644	1,66,844	0·83	—2·47
Total ...	7,883,628	3,45,61,445	93,24,449	2,52,36,996	14·70	11·35

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

287. On the ten Major Canals in operation a capital outlay, direct and indirect, of Rs. 39,26,106 was expended, bringing the total cost of these canals to Rs. 17,17,13,716 upon which a net revenue of Rs. 2,52,37,996 was obtained, giving a profit of 14·70 per cent. Excluding, however, the Upper Chenab and the Lower Bari Doab Canals which, though opened in 1912 and 1913, respectively, are not working properly yet, the percentage of the profit comes to 21·15—which is satisfactory. The net profit after paying interest charges of Rs. 57,55,299 amounted to Rs. 1,94,82,697 or 11·35 per cent. on the total capital outlay.

288. On all the Imperial Minor Canals which are not classed as productive, including the two canals for which capital accounts are kept, the net profit earned amounted to Rs. 9,47,214 as against Rs. 9,07,411 in 1913-14.

On the two Provincial Canals system the net profit was Rs. 26,215.

On the Canals of the Triple Project Rs. 9,38,25,952 were expended on capital account in direct and indirect charges up to the end of the year under report.

The gross Imperial Capital now invested in the Punjab Major Canals is Rs. 22,75,33,724 or over £ 15 millions sterling. The details for each canal are given in subsequent sections.

MAJOR WORKS—CANALS IN OPERATION.

Western Jumna Canal.

289. The area irrigated was the highest on record and the gross revenue collected was Rs. 2,09,937 more than the average for the triennium ending 1913-14. Working expenses, however, were Rs. 1,38,948 more than the average of the previous triennium, due to heavy expenditure on silting tanks and improvements to banks of channels, and on clearance of drainages.

The investigations made in connection with the proposals for a Dam 200 feet high in the Jumna River at Koch, 8 miles above Tajewala, are now under the consideration of the Local Government.

A special Drainage Division was formed in March 1914 to investigate the very complicated problems connected with closed drainages in the Karnal District. This vexed question has defied solution for the last 50 years and it seems likely that much money will have to be spent to obtain the desired improvements.

Proposals for remodelling the Head Works at Tajewala, the subsidiary head works at Dadupur and the whole of the Main Line from Tajewala to Indri were under consideration during the year and have made considerable progress.

Sirhind Canal.

290. The kharif was exceptionally favourable, being 11·89 per cent. in excess of the average irrigation of the previous triennium. The rabi, on the other hand, showed a decrease of 26·15 per cent., while the deficiency in the total of both crops taken together amounted to 13·4 per cent. The decrease is not surprising as the year 1911-12 was a record one, while 1912-13 and 1913-14 were years very much above the average.

Compared with 1913-14 there was a decrease of 75,147 acres in the total area irrigated, due to exceptionally late monsoon rains which enabled rabi crops to be sown without canal water, and as this was followed by favourable winter and spring rains canal water was not required to mature these "barani" areas.

Upper Bari Doab Canal.

291. The area of 11,94,989 acres irrigated exceeded the average of the two previous triennia, while the rabi was a record one.

From an agricultural point of view the year was a good one, the supply was plentiful, and the climatic conditions generally good. In the new Fourth Division further improvements were made in remodelling distributaries and Minor channels, which have added to the irrigation efficiency.

292. Compared with the figures of the year 1913-14 the area irrigated shows an increase of 66,615 acres. Lower Chenab Canal.

The revenue shows an excess of Rs. 1,03,334 over 1913-14 due to increase in irrigation and to the greater amount realized from the sale of Government waste lands. There was a slight decrease in the percentage of profit on the capital outlay due to increased expenditure under capital.

The accumulated net profits have increased from Rs. 9,03,06,634 to Rs. 10,24,86,450 as against a capital outlay of Rs. 3,17,00,058.

The conditions of the year, both for the kharif and rabi crops, were more than usually favourable for agricultural operations and full advantage was taken of these conditions as is evident from the results obtained during the year. The year under review was free from any serious breaches in the canal or distributaries and from calamities except in the Lyallpur Division, where a hailstorm in November did a great deal of damage to the Toria crop in parts of the district, and hailstorms and thunderstorms in February and March did some damage to the wheat crop.

293. The season was, on the whole, favourable to agriculture and irrigation. The supply in the canal was sufficient and rotational closure of branches were not found to be necessary. The canal was closed at head for 31 days during kharif and for 18 days during rabi, owing to slackness of demand for water and for special repairs to works. Lower Jhelum Canal.

The areas irrigated and assessed (821,488 and 799,801 acres, respectively) were practically identical with those of the preceding year (which were 823,532 and 803,219 acres, respectively; these being the highest on record). Out of the total areas of 821,488 acres irrigated 403,012 acres were in proprietary villages and 418,476 in new villages (colony).

The net revenue represented a return of 21·8 on the capital outlay one per cent. higher than that of the preceding year which itself surpassed all previous records.

294. The net area of 424,065 acres assessed was a record one, mainly due to a very favourable river, which remained high for a considerable time, especially during September and in the beginning of October, a very opportune time for maturing kharif crops and sowing rabi crops. Upper Sutlej Inundation Canal.

295. The results of the year's operations were entirely satisfactory, the total areas irrigated and assessed (331,659 and 304,702 acres, respectively) being the highest on record. The heavy rainfall during kharif benefited the crops considerably, and river supply was practically favourable throughout the year. The outturn of wheat was below average, but other crops were good. Cattle were in good condition, fodder being plentiful. Sidhnai Canals.

296. The decrease in the area irrigated in both kharif and rabi as compared with the two previous triennia is due to the paucity of supply in some of the canals, *viz.*, the Manka Kasturi and Dhingana. The supply of water was short in the middle of the season owing to a low river, and river erosion, and the consequent silting up of heads increased the difficulties with which these canals had to contend. Indus Inundation Canals.

The net revenue was Rs. 1,13,065 less than in the previous year due to the following causes:—

(*a*) A smaller area being assessed to water rates owing to very large remissions being granted during kharif 1914 due to short supply of water consequent upon the early closing of most of the canals.

(*b*) A greater amount being spent under working expenses during the year.

(*c*) A large amount remaining unrealized at the close of the year, *viz.*, Rs. 31,659.

Triple Canals.

297. The construction work on the Triple Project is now drawing to a close. The Upper Chenab Canal was formally opened in 1912, but further construction was necessary and it was not until the year under report that the tail reach of the canal was finally completed and water passed into the River Ravi at Balloki. Previous to this surplus water was escaped into the Deg Nallah as a temporary arrangement.

The Lower Bari Doab Canal, another link of the Triple Project, was formally opened in 1913, but it is, like the Upper Chenab Canal, dependent for most of its supply on the Upper Jhelum Canal, and both have to await the completion of the Upper Jhelum Canal for a sufficient supply of water. Nevertheless, the results so far obtained are satisfactory. The area irrigated on these two canals was 211,882 and 189,204 acres which compare favourably with the Project figures of 350,000 and 167,844 acres, respectively.

Satisfactory progress was made during the year on the Upper Jhelum Canal. The breach in the river bund, which occurred in April 1914, resulted in the flooding of the foundation of the regulator and deep cutting beyond. The work was, however, quickly restarted and the *bund* reconstructed and strengthened and pushed on, night and day, to completion, against a rising river without any further serious interruptions, with the result that not only the Head Regulator but also the Mangla Cut, which has proved a far more difficult piece of work than was at first anticipated, have sufficiently advanced to allow of water being passed down to the Chenab River and so provide for supplies in the Lower Bari Doab Canal during rabi 1915-16.

298. The following table exhibits the financial results of the operations of Imperial and Provincial Minor Canals and the area irrigated by each :—

1	2	3	4	5
Name of canal.	Area irrigated.	Gross income.	Working expenses.	Net income.
	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Shahpur Canal (Imperial)	43,697	1,16,689	50,207	66,482
Ghaggar Canals	51,951	...	...	—23,134
Lower Sutlej Canals	374,059	6,31,012	2,74,494	3,56,518
Chenab Indus Canals	219,398	4,85,893	1,87,476	2,98,417
Muzaffargarh Canal	378,544	6,39,013	3,90,082	2,48,931
Shahpur Canals (Provincial)	31,050	58,150	42,083	16,067
Jherku Canals	798	12,528	2,380	10,148

Shahpur (Imperial) Inundation Canals.

299. The river supply failed to enter the Eastern Station Canal early in August, owing to silt deposits in the canal, and low water levels in the river. Flow was restored subsequently when the river again rose in freshets, but ceased again on the 22nd August 1914.

An abnormally late flood of considerable magnitude occurred on the 31st October 1914, causing the canals to flow once more for four days, until 3rd November. This late flood was very beneficial to the rabi crops.

The canals all ceased to flow for the rest of the year on the 3rd November 1914.

The area successfully matured was 39,375 acres as against 33,901 acres, the average of the preceding triennium. The increase was mainly due to the abnormally late flood of the first few days of November 1914.

Ghaggar Canal.

300. Including the "paleve" area (19,495 acres) which was watered but not sown, the total area irrigated (51,951 acres) was a record one, due to the late rain which kept the reservoir full to a later date than usual.

As these canals receive no credit for any fluctuating revenue up to Rs. 37,000 their operation always shows an apparent loss.

IMPERIAL MINOR WORKS WITH REVENUE ACCOUNTS ONLY.

301. The canals were opened earlier than usual owing to an early rise in the River Sutlej on which they are dependent. Lower Sutlej Inundation Canals.

Agricultural conditions of the year under review were distinctly good. Crops matured well and kharaba remissions were small. The total areas irrigated and assessed (374,059 and 347,483 acres) were the highest on record and the general result of the season's working may be said to be eminently satisfactory.

Some erosion took place at the heads of the Mahamedwah, Mailsi and Hajiwah Canals during July and August, but not to such an extent as to vitiate their working.

302. The channel which requires water earliest is the Sikandrabad Canal as it matures more indigo than any other canal and also irrigates a larger acreage of garden land. It was opened in April as usual and worked very satisfactorily. The Bilochanwah Canal was opened rather late owing to the low river; it seldom flows for long and is generally opened late. Breaches in the Wali Muhammad and the silting up of its main head during August 1914 caused some reduction in supply, but, on the whole, the irrigation was above the average. Chenab Inundation Canals.

Agricultural conditions of the year were good. Crops matured well and kharaba remissions were comparatively small. The total areas irrigated and assessed (219,398 and 194,218 acres, respectively) were the largest on record.

303. The area of 378,644 acres irrigated was the second largest on record and the results of the year's operations were, on the whole, satisfactory. The year was one of heavy rainfall and large river supplies. Though escapes were worked in August to their full capacity and water was run over the Bet land freely, the canals brought down far more water than was needed and swamping occurred in large areas on the tail channels of the Maggi and Taliri Canals, which retarded the sowings of the rabi crop. Muzaffargarh Canals.

PROVINCIAL CANALS.

304. The river supply was, on the whole, favourable. No supply difficulty was experienced on these canals. Shahpur Provincial Inundation Canals.

On the whole the working of these canals was fairly satisfactory; but the credit lies entirely with the Raniwah Canal, for on the Corbynwah Canal (which is a river creek rather than an artificial canal) the area irrigated was less than might reasonably be expected, considering the favourable condition of the river.

305. These canals consist of (1) the Deg, (2) the Nikki, (3) the Sukhrawa, and (4) the Jherku Canals in the Montgomery District, and were working under the Punjab Minor Canals Act (Act III of 1905). In 1914, however, the first three canals were excluded from the operations of the said Act as the area irrigated by the Deg Canal was brought under the command of the Upper Chenab Canal, and that by the Nikki and Sukhrawa Canals under the command of the Lower Bari Doab Canal, both working under Northern Canal and Drainage Act (Act VIII of 1873). Ravi Inundation Canals.

Thus, there only remained the Jherku Canal which was doing irrigation as an Inundation Canal under this system during the year.

The area irrigated amounted to 798 acres (35 acres in kharif and 763 acres in rabi).

HAVELI WEIR PROJECT.

306. Preliminary investigation was started with a view to ascertaining what measures were possible for the improvements of the Chenab series of Inundation Canals in the Multan and Muzaffargarh Districts. These investigations showed that such a scheme was not only feasible but sufficiently alluring to justify a more detailed investigation. With this object in view a new Division, called the Haveli Project Survey Division, was formed on the 1st October 1914. Detailed surveys of the tracts were

carried out with the result that a Project was formulated for the construction of a weir across the River Chenab immediately below its confluence with the Jhelum River combined with canals taking off above it on both the eastern and western banks. This Project, which has since been drawn up and submitted to the Government of India, will, if sanctioned, not only improve the semi-perennial Sidhnai Series of canals and the Inundation Canals of the Multan District, but will also bring under irrigation large areas in the Jhang District which are now uncommanded.

NEILA DAM, SIRHIND CANAL.

307. The original project for a Dam and Reservoir on the Sutlej River at Neila Gorge, which some years ago was rejected as being financially unsound, has again been taken up with a view to enquiring whether the original revenue forecast was not pitched too low, and if it was feasible to increase the rates to be charged for the water supplied, in view of the great benefits to be obtained in the arid famine swept tracts of Sirsa and Dabwali to which the extension of irrigation would be carried, and also whether the initial cost of the Dam could not be reduced, by disposing of the river supplies during construction through tunnels in the sides of the gorge. These points are again receiving the careful consideration of the local officers.

PROPOSED MALER KOTLA DISTRIBUTARY FROM THE SIRHIND CANAL.

308. Plans and estimates for a distributary to provide kharif irrigation to a part of Maler Kotla State from the Bhatinda Branch of the Sirhind Canal have been under preparation for some time ; surveys were carried out during the cold weather, and the details of the scheme are now under consideration.

SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT.

309. The project estimates in connection with the utilization of the surplus water of the Sutlej river proposed last year is pending the orders of the Government of India on certain points referred to them for decision.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :- –

PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

Land Revenue.—Report on the Land Revenue Administration of the Punjab for the agricultural year ending 30th September 1914.

Canal Revenue.—Administration Report of the Irrigation Department, Punjab, for the year 1914-15.

Excise and Opium.—Report on the Excise Administration of the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

Stamps.—Note on the Stamp Statements of the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

Income-Tax.—Report on the Income-Tax Administration of the Punjab during the year 1914-15.

Forests.—Progress Report of Forest Administration in the Punjab for 1914-15.

Provincial Revenues.—Budget for 1915-16 and Finance Statement, published in the *Punjab Gazette.*

Local Funds.—Report on the Administration and Accounts of the District Boards in the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

Municipal Revenues.—Report on the working of Municipalities in the Punjab during the year 1914-15.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Statistics of British India, Part III—Commercial Services.

Part IV (*b*)—Finance and Revenue.

Part VIII—Local Funds.

Salt.—Report on the Administration of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department for the official year 1914-15.

36.—Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

310. The following table shows the receipts under the various heads of revenue in the year under report— **Gross revenue.**

Major heads.	Imperial. Rs. 1,000.	Provincial. Rs. 1,000.	Total. Rs. 1,000.	+ / – on figures for 1913-14. Rs. 1,000.
Land Revenue	1,42,29	1,42,28	2,84,57	+ 15,13
Opium	6,15	...	6,15	– 37
Salt	46,79	...	46,79	+ 8,38
Stamps	27,19	27,19	54,38	– 1,86
Excise	34,60	34,61	69,21	+ 7
Provincial rates	...	39	39	+ 19
Customs	6	...	6	– 12
Income tax	8,94	8,94	17,88	+ 68
Forests	...	14,38	14,38	+ 83
Registration	...	3,53	3,53	– 25
Tributes	1,44	...	1,44	– 1
Interest	56	2,25	2,81	+ 16
Law and Justice—Courts of Law ...	...	5,88	5,88	+ 34
" " —Jails	...	4,09	4,09	+ 15
Police	...	1,73	1,73	– 30
Education	...	4,77	4,77	+ 28
Medical	...	86	86	+ 21
Agriculture	...	1,73	1,73	– 43
Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments ...	...	7	7	+ 5
Receipts in aid of Superannuation ...	1,15	83	1,98	+ 1
Stationery and Printing	79	79	1,58	+ 22
Miscellaneous	62	4,18	4,80	– 1,94
Irrigation Major Works	1,72,86	1,72,86	3,45,72	– 1,85
" Minor Works	9,29	53	9,82	+ 3
Civil Works	1,03	4,04	5,07	– 1,09
Total ...	4,53,76	4,35,93	8,89,69	+ 18,54

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

Gross expenditure.

311. The gross expenditure, excluding expenditure of the Military, Railways, Post Office and Telegraph Departments and Capital expenditure on canals, was as follows :—

Major heads.	Imperial. Rs. 1,000.	Provincial. Rs. 1,000	Total. Rs. 1,000.	+ − on figures for 1913-14. Rs. 1,000.
Refunds	97	1,01	1,98	+ 16
Assignments	58	38	96	− 13
Land Revenue	...	49,87	49,87	+ 77
Salt	4,75	...	4,75	− 65
Stamps	85	86	1,71	− 21
Excise	1,07	1,08	2,15	+ 30
Income-tax	7	6	13	− 4
Forests	...	8,89	8,89	− 30
Registration	...	1,22	1,22	+ 2
Interest	1,26	1,86	3,12	+ 25
General Administration	4,58	13,27	17,85	+ 97
Law and Justice—Courts of Law ...	...	46,03	46,03	+ 3,48
" " " *Jails*	...	15,86	15,86	+ [illegible]
Police	...	62,49	62,49	+ 3,56
Education	...	42,20	42,20	− 2,49
Ecclesiastical	2,46	...	2,46	+ 1
Medical	...	28,23	28,23	+ 14,51
Political	6,24	...	6,24	− 69
Agriculture	40	11,46	11,86	+ 1,95
Scientific and Miscellaneous Departments ...	...	1,01	1,01	− 9
Pensions, Territorial and Political ...	73	...	73	− 9
Superannuation	3	22,61	22,64	+ 87
Stationery and Printing	30	7,70	8,00	+ 1,06
Miscellaneous	1,65	4,44	6,09	+ 1,53
Famine Relief	1,97	...	1,97	+ 35
Reduction or avoidance of Debt ...	...	1,40	1,40	...
Irrigation, Major Works	79,38	79,38	1,58,76	+ 9,97
" Minor Works	9,97	1,82	11,79	− 43
Civil Works	5,65	91,63	97,28	− 6,14
Total ...	1,22,91	4,94,76	6,17,67	+ 30,73

37.—Land Revenue.

312. As explained in paragraph 497 of the Administration Report for 1911-12 the land revenue as given in the Land Revenue Report concerns the agricultural year ending 30th September, six months preceding the end of the financial year, so there must always be a difference in the total collections as calculated by the Treasury and by the Financial Commissioners' office in their yearly returns.

The Land Revenue Report for the year ending 30th September 1914 returns the following figures including collections on

account of previous years, comments on which have already been made in section 69 :—

	Rs.
Fixed Land Revenue	2,08,08,837
Fluctuating Land Revenue	1,18,07,642
Temporarily excluded from Fixed Land Revenue roll	6,59,859
Other Land Revenue	48,30,103
Total ...	3,81,06,441

or after deducting Rs. 1,11,52,983, due to irrigation, Rs. 2,79,53,458.

38.—Irrigation.

313. The total capital invested up to the end of 1914-15 on canals in operation, classed as Productive Major Works, was Rs. 17,17,13,716; the capital expenditure during the year was Rs. 39,26,106; the income from all sources, after deducting refunds, was Rs. 3,45,62,445. The working expenses amounted to Rs. 93,24,449, and the interest charges to Rs. 57,55,299. This leaves a net profit of 194 lakhs compared with 205 in 1913-14 and 192 in 1912-13.

The balance profit on Imperial Canals, Minor Works, not classed as Productive, was Rs. 9,47,214 and on Provincial Canals was Rs. 26,215 compared with Rs. 9,07,411, and Rs. 35,054, respectively, in the previous year.

39.—Excise and Opium.

314. The year is marked by a general rise in the retail prices of all exciseable articles, a general decrease in consumption which was considerable in the case of liquor and small in that of opium and intoxicating drugs, a slight reduction in the number of licenses, and a stationary revenue. The rise in prices and decrease in consumption are mainly the result of the war and, to a lesser degree, are due to the institution, in the latter half of the year, of an organised campaign against illicit distillation and smuggling in certain selected central districts. General.

315. The total revenue realised during the year amounted to Rs. 69,21,091 against Rs. 69,08,669 in 1913-14. The increase of about Rs. 12,000 is due principally to the increase from vend license fees which amounted to Rs. 2,99,000 and duty Rs. 78,000, counterbalanced by the substantial drop of Rs. 3,19,000 in the receipts from still-head duty due to decreased consumption caused by the high prices of food stuffs and increased cost of liquor consequent on the war.

316. In pursuance of existing policy, the number of retail licenses for the sale of country spirits has been further reduced, from 766 in 1913-14, to 748 in the year under review; the number is now no more than 1 to every 133 square miles of territory and 26,000 of population and is lower, relatively to area and population, than in any other part of India. Liquor.

317. In connection with the question of providing counter-attractions to drink in the shape of encouraging innocent recreations, it is satisfactory to notice the social service which is being performed by the increasing number of temperance associations and the wider development of their influence and activities. It is seldom that advisory committees, which exist in some of the larger towns, are called upon to exercise their functions in respect to the grant of new licenses for the sale of liquor, and it has been suggested that a better way of consulting public opinion would be by utilising the services of District, Local and Municipal Bodies: some Deputy Commissioners have already begun consulting these bodies.

318. The increase in the income from licenses for the sale of foreign liquor, which amounted to Rs. 14,594, has again this year been accompanied by a decrease in consumption of about 2,000 gallons: special or spiced

spirit made in the Punjab Distilleries, which appeared to be ousting the foreign article, has this year suffered a set-back, the consumption, as compared with 1913-14, having declined by nearly 10,000 gallons, the reason doubtless being that, in times of scarcity, the cheapest article is preferred, but it is also suggested that the taste for this form of liquor, which was largely a matter of fashion, is passing away.

319. During the year, owing to a rate war between the distillers and with a view to prevent undue competition in wholesale rates on the one hand and a possible combination to inflate prices on the other, the province was divided, in consultation with the distillers themselves and for distillation purposes, into vend spheres in which the local distillery has a monopoly of vend, subject to maximum and minimum limits of prices. This marks a definite change in the Provincial supply system, which has hitherto been free, and it is hoped that the arrangements will work smoothly and successfully.

320. The number of persons convicted for drunkenness in the municipal towns of the Punjab was 1,131, or 7 per 10,000 of population, as against 1,388 in 1913-14.

Opium.

321. There is a marked decrease of 3,605 sers in the recorded consumption of opium of all kinds, particularly in the case of the hill variety, but it is possible that the output of this form of opium may diminish considerably in the next few years as the result of measures taken to restrict the supply to the Nabha State which consumed ⅔rds of the entire exports to the plains. As a result of the measures taken to put a stop to the combination of trades, the number of licenses in the hands of small shop-keepers in the Ferozepore District has been reduced by about 14.

322. The profits on the sale of excise opium amounted during the year to Rs. 6,33,565 or an increase of Rs. 3,933 only on the figure, Rs. 6,29,632, for the previous year, due to an increase in the issues from 54,748 sers in 1913-14 to 55,084 sers in the current year.

Charas.

323. The consumption of charas continues to decrease steadily; it has fallen from 23,628 sers in 1912-13 to 21,789 in 1913-14 and 21,694 sers in the present year. The reason assigned is the rise in duty coupled with high prices of food-grains, but examination of the prices does not support the contention that enhancement of duty tends to reduce consumption. Charas-smokers are mostly fakirs, and local fluctuations in consumption are probably connected with migrations of this class. District officers are unanimous in recommending an increase of duty, and proposals are now under consideration for raising the duty from 1st April 1916 to Rs. 14 per ser.

Bhang.

324. The consumption of bhang in the province fell from 92,471 sers in 1913-14 to 89,337 sers in the year under review. In connection with the question whether any measures can be devised to check the consumption of the drug, district officers were consulted and several noted that there is room for enhancement of the duty, but the Financial Commissioner is of opinion that there are, at present, no grounds for raising it beyond existing rates. There are indications in some districts that the consumption of bhang varies inversely with that of charas, and it would be a change for the worse if the practice of drinking bhang, which is in moderation perfectly harmless, were to be replaced in any degree by the deleterious habit of smoking charas.

Cocaine.

325. Though the number of cocaine licenses decreased by 10, sales to the public increased from 15,074 to 15,341 grains; this occurs in the Lahore and Simla Districts, where the increase amounts to 2,437 grains. A special enquiry was made to ascertain the cause of the increase in the Simla District, but without result; the cocaine was apparently issued on medical prescriptions and the trade is in the hands of old established

European firms. A large decrease of 846 grains in Rawalpindi is due to a licensee being prohibited from issuing the drug under his own prescriptions.

Important seizures of cocaine were made in the Ambala, Amritsar and Lahore Districts, which are the chief centres of illicit traffic in cocaine.

Excise offences and preventive measures.

326. The number of persons arrested for offences against the Excise and Opium laws increased from 871 to 1,023, but the number of convictions fell from 668 to 653, a decline from 75 to 65 per cent. of arrests, this apparent falling off in the convictions being due to the large number of cases to be instituted which were still pending at the close of the year. The increase in arrests is the result chiefly of the special campaign against illicit distillation and smuggling of liquor conducted by Mr. Kemball, Superintendent of Police, who was placed on special duty for the purpose. In the course of the campaign, the active part of which only lasted three months, 182 preventive raids were undertaken resulting in the detection of 63 complete and 35 incomplete stills and 83 cases of illicit possession of liquor; of the 182 cases two-thirds were in villages in which the practice of illicit distillation had not been suspected, an indication that in the past the volume of illicit consumption in the province has been considerably underestimated. The results of the campaign have led to the conclusion that the continuance of some such special organisation for the control and initiation of preventive measures is of the greatest importance.

327. There was one arrest for smuggling of cocaine, though important seizures were also made in Ambala, Jagadhari, Amritsar and Lahore, the chief centres of illicit traffic in the drug. The external sources of supply are chiefly Delhi and Saharanpur and at a conference held at Delhi in November 1914 measures were agreed on for improving co-operation among the preventive establishments of the provinces concerned.

328. The Excise Intelligence Bureau has continued to render useful service to the administration during the year.

40.—Salt Revenue.

Cis-Indus and Kalabagh Mines.

329. The quantity of salt excavated during the year was 38,48,176 maunds, an increase of 1·44 per cent. on last year's figure. 39,62,825 maunds or 12·90 per cent. more than last year were issued, and the sales amounted to over 42 lakhs of maunds, an increase of 20·78 per cent.

The price of 1 anna and 2 pies a maund was raised, with effect from 1st November 1914, to 1 anna and 6 pies a maund, and there was a net profit of Rs. 9,541 compared with a loss of Rs. 3,000 in 1913-14.

The through traffic sales amounted to over $37\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs of maunds and formed 94·44 per cent. of the total rail-borne trade of the division compared with 94·47 per cent. in 1913-14.

Mandi Mines.

330. The sales from the Mandi Mines, maunds 77,055, were less by maunds 17,302 or 18·34 per cent. than the sales of the previous year.

Sultanpur Salt Works.

331. The sales of Sultanpuri salt increased by 3,882 maunds to 27,036 maunds. The price at which salt was sold by the manufacturers at the Sultanpur Salt Works ranged from annas 4 to annas 6 a maund, the average price being 5 annas per maund.

Internal Branch.

332. Fees from licenses realized Rs. 4,846 this year as against Rs. 4,781 in 1913-14.

GENERAL.

333. Exclusive of the operations of Internal Branch, complete provincial figures for which are not published, the accounts for the Punjab, including excise duty, are as follows:—

Source.	Receipts. Rs.	Charges. Rs.	Net receipts. Rs.
Cis-Indus ...	46,41,872	4,59,347	41,82,525
Mandi ...	9,632	5,323	4,309
Sultanpur ...	27,472	9,959	17,513
Total ...	46,78,976	4,74,629	42,04,347

From the net receipts a sum of Rs. 80,000 has to be deducted on account of treaty payment to Bahawalpur.

41.—Stamp Revenue.

334. The total revenue derived from receipts under the Court Fees and Stamp Acts fell from Rs. 56,29,000 in 1913-14 to Rs. 54,42,000 in the year under report. Of the total decrease of Rs. 1,87,000 the receipts under Judicial or Court Fee stamps showed a decrease of Rs. 40,000, while non-judicial stamps showed a decrease of Rs. 1,44,000 due chiefly in the one case to the effects which the war and the prevalence of scarcity in certain districts have had on civil litigation generally, and in the other to the dislocation of business caused by the war and the late banking crisis. The admission by courts of petitions under section 4 of the Punjab Redemption of Mortgages Act, II of 1913, on payment of 8 annas stamp duty, is responsible for part of the decrease under the income from judicial stamps; but it is a matter for satisfaction that this reduction of legal charges has facilitated the redemption of land.

The total expenditure of the Department fell from Rs. 2,28,835 in 1913-14 to Rs. 2,21,498 in 1914-15.

During the year under report special attention was drawn to the orders requiring Excise Inspectors to inspect stamp vendors' registers. The number of cases in which insufficiently stamped or unstamped documents were detected by the courts showed an improvement.

42.—Income-tax.

General.

335. Assessments being for the most part based on the profits of the year before that in which they are levied, the present remarks reflect the conditions prevailing in the year 1913-14. That year, it will be remembered, was marked by a series of commercial failures beginning with the closing of the Peoples' Bank. Agriculturally the year was of less than normal prosperity, and prices of food-grains ruled high. The collections on account of the year's assessment rose from Rs. 1,680 to Rs. 1,748 thousand, an increase of 4 per cent. Collections on account of the year's demand rose slightly under all classes of salary, and the proportion of the tax on the salaries of private employés which is collected at the source continued to rise. It is now 45 out of 69 thousand.

Companies.

336. The figures for profits of companies increased by Rs. 20,000 and over 20 per cent., but this increase is entirely in the profits of companies assessed at over a lakh, and represents the growing earnings of the Southern Punjab Railway Company which now pays Rs. 87,659. It is perhaps a salutary result of the financial crisis that while Banking and Insurance Companies have decreased from 15 to 8, the number of industrial concerns, such as cotton and flour mills, has increased from 25 to 62 and their assessment from Rs. 7 to nearly Rs. 14 thousand. A recent ruling of the Government of India as to the method of determining the profits of companies will, it is believed, result in the assessment of income which has heretofore been held exempt.

Part IV.

337. The collections in respect of the year's assessment under part IV (other sources) rose by 3 per cent. from Rs. 1,193 thousand to Rs. 1,226 thousand. It is not altogether satisfactory that of this increase of Rs. 33

thousand, 18 should be on incomes under Rs. 2,000, or that of 1,231 assessees added to the list, to 862 should likewise belong to the lower classes of assessment and 424 the lowest class of all. The Financial Commissioner has no doubt that this is indicative of the tendency, commented on by several officers, of tahsil officials to fight shy of the rich in their tahsils and to make up their figures by an indiscriminate assessment of smaller men. The percentage of collections under part IV due to the lowest class (assessees under 1,250) is 17·3, a figure which is itself too great and is exceeded in many districts.

338. District Officers were invited to introduce the group system of assessment into such towns and for such groups and professions as they might consider suitable, but it cannot be said that the experiment has been very encouraging in its results in the districts in which it has been tried. It is, however, too early to pronounce it a failure and it will be introduced in some other districts during the current year. Group Assessment.

339. An officer was employed on the special revision of the assessment of the Lahore District during the year. The result was an increase of the final demand under part IV of Rs. 6,000. Certain Commissioners speak strongly in favour of assessment by a professional agency, and, with the approval of Government, proposals are being prepared for the extension of the system in larger towns.

43.—Forest Revenue.

340. The total revenue for the forest year, 1st July 1914 to 30th June 1915, amounted to Rs. 1,466 lakhs, a net increase of 1·00 lakh over the figures of 1913-14. The chief increase (·58 lakh) was due to sale of wood on areas to be colonised. The revenue was distributed among the major heads as follows :—

		Rs.
Major produce, including drift	...	10·69 lakhs.
Minor produce, including revenue from forests not managed by Government	...	2·92 ,,
Other heads	...	1·05 ,,
Total	...	14·66 ,,

341. The expenditure of the year was 9·02 lakhs, a net decrease of 3 lakhs. The net results of the working of the year are as follows :—

		Rs.
Cash surplus	...	5,64,139
Increase in value of stock in depôts	...	14,619
Increase in value of live and dead stock	...	43,020
Total	...	6,21,778
Deduct—		
Decrease in outstanding of revenue	...	51,482
Net result in favour of the year	...	5,70,296

44.—Provincial Revenue.

342. The provincial shares of the revenue raised and the expenditure incurred in the Punjab during the last two years, with the opening and closing balances in each year, are shown in the table below :— General.

		1913-14.	1914-15.
		Rs. (thousands).	Rs. (thousands).
Opening balance ...	...	1,77,84	*70,92
Income ...	...	4,32,33	4,35,93
Net transfers from Imperial to Provincial.		29,10	40,13
Total	...	6,39,27	5,46,98
Expenditure ...	...	4,68,35	4,94,76
Closing balance	...	1,70,92	52,22

*Excludes 1 crore surrendered to the Government of India from 1st November 1914.

Income.

343. An improvement of Rs. 7,56,000 was recorded in the Provincial share of Land Revenue, to some extent owing to the enhancement of assessments in districts under settlement, and the recovery in a year of good harvests of most of the outstanding arrears, but chiefly because for the first time large receipts were obtained from the auction of land in Montgomery, which more than counterbalanced the progressive decline in the income from the sale of proprietary rights in the older colonies. There was also a normal growth in income-tax receipts and most of the minor sources of revenue, while owing to a brisk market for timber, and the sale of firewood from areas which were being cleared for colonization, the Forest Department realised nearly a lakh more than in 1913-14. On the other hand, the revenue from stamps and excise was reduced by causes directly or indirectly connected with the war; miscellaneous revenue suffered from smaller sales of land and houses, and from very heavy refunds of lapsed deposits; and the receipts of the Irrigation Department showed an appreciable shrinkage, mainly due to a smaller demand for canal water from the Sirhind and Upper Bari Doab Canals, owing to timely and sufficient rainfall.

Assignments.

344. The most important new assignment received in 1914-15 was one of Rs. 3,50,000 per annum in lieu of the sum of one crore surrendered by the Punjab Government from its provincial balance to the Government of India. In addition Rs. 3,30,000 were transferred to Provincial revenues for the improvement of the sewage system of Simla; Rs. 1,00,000 to cover the cost of provincialising the salaries of Civil Veterinary Department officers; and Rs. 1,49,000 to meet the extra expenditure thrown on Punjab revenues by the secession of the Province of Delhi.

Expenditure.

345. Under *Agriculture*, there was a considerable increase in expenditure mainly on account of the experiment for eradicating alkali from the soil which is being conducted at Narwala, and to improvements which are being made in the Lahore Zoological Gardens. Superannuation charges exhibited a normal growth of about one lakh, and stationery charges were higher by a similar amount, chiefly through initial expenditure on the new Government Press at Lahore. The expenditure on the maintenance of canals also showed a marked increase, of which the Provincial share was nearly 2½ lakhs. There was a reversion in 1914-15 to the previous procedure whereby grants for medical and sanitary purposes were classified under the head 24—Medical instead of 45—Civil Works, in charge of Civil Officers; and the combined increase of nearly 12 lakhs under these two heads was due to the distribution of 10 lakhs among district boards for the construction and maintenance of roads, and to a more liberal allotment of funds for medical and sanitary works. For the rest, the increases, which led to an aggregate enhancement of nearly 26½ lakhs in the expenditure of the year, can mainly be attributed to the effects of the war in Europe. The sharp rise in the price of food-grains made it necessary to grant compensation for dearness of provisions from September onwards at a cost of Rs. 3,00,000, while this factor, in conjunction with an increase in the jail population due to the disturbed state of the Province, swelled the charges of the Jail Department by a lakh-and-a-half of rupees. The recall of officers from leave, and the necessity for placing officers on special duty to cope with work arising out of the war were responsible for increases under the heads 3—Land-Revenue charges of district administration, 18—Genreal Administration and 20—Police, while under the latter head extra expenditure was also incurred on punitive police posts, additions to the police force, and the re-organisation of the Criminal Investigation Department. Under 19-A—Law and Justice, a considerable sum was expended on the employment of counsel in the Delhi Conspiracy Case: and under Interest on debt, only part of the increase of Rs. 3,60,000 in the Provincial liability was accounted for by a growth in the capital at charge, the balance being due to the higher rate which it was necessary for Government to pay for its borrowings. Only under the heads 22—Education and 45—Civil Works,

in charge of Public Works Officers, was the expenditure substantially less than in 1913-14. Smaller grants were made to local bodies for the extension of education, as the assignments received for this purpose from the Government of India were nearly exhausted, and part of the amount placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department was withdrawn to meet the extra charges which arose in the course of the year.

45.—Local Funds.

346. The gross income of the district boards of the Province continues to expand and during the year amounted to Rs. 83,82,125 —an increase of Rs. 2,16,757 on the income of the previous year. The total amount of Government grants was Rs. 2,27,276 greater than in 1913-14, and the local rate also produced Rs. 95,881 more, but these increases were to some extent counterbalanced by a considerable falling off in receipts from Cattle fairs, Sale of buildings and other property, and various other heads. Grants were made by Government to the amount of Rs. 32,50,606: in addition contributions payable by district boards to Government, which in the previous year had amounted to about Rs. 2,[illegible]9,000, were remitted.

347. Receipts under the head 'Education' were Rs. 62,765 less than last year owing to a falling off in Government grants which were less by Rs. 78,000: the income from fees and other contributions was, however, Rs. 18,000 better. The expenditure rose by 2 lakhs to Rs. 17,35,208, over 4 lakhs more than the income.

348. The income under the head 'Medical' was Rs. 4,628 more than in the previous year. The increase, however, was almost entirely due to the payment in advance of contributions for the following year to the district board of Rohtak. The charging of fees was introduced in Jhang, Rawalpindi, Ferozepore and Karnal, but except in Ferozepore resulted in no appreciable increase of income. Expenditure rose from Rs. 6,75,211 to Rs. 7,03,007, and would have been more but for the remission of certain contributions previously payable to Government.

349. Receipts under the head 'Civil Works' rose by over 4 lakhs to Rs. 28,14,656, the increase being due to largely augmented Government grants. Expenditure, however, which amounted to Rs. 35,46,684, was only about 1½ lakhs in excess of the previous year, chiefly owing to the fact that a large part of the Government grants was received too late in the year to be utilised. The construction and maintenance of buildings accounted for about 11 lakhs of the total and communications for about 17 lakhs, of which 4 lakhs were for construction and the remainder for maintenance.

350. In no case has any board allowed its balance to fall below the prescribed minimum, and in a number of cases balances are very high, particularly in Gujranwala (Rs. 3,59,360), Lyallpur (Rs. 3,19,501), Hissar (Rs. 3,11,658), Ferozepore (Rs. 2,99,694), Multan (Rs. 2,83,650), and Hoshiarpur (Rs. 2,16,628).

46.—Municipal Funds.

351. The aggregate income of municipalities again rose from Rs. 76,46,000 in the previous year to Rs. 82,92,902. Excluding loans and deposits, however, there was a considerable decrease amounting to about Rs. 2,35,000. The largest falling off was in the income from octroi which was less by over 2 lakhs, due to decreased imports of foreign goods owing to the war, and to the general tightness of money prevalent during the year. In spite of this reduction in the income, the expenditure rose by nearly 19 lakhs to Rs. 83,67,181, of which however 9 lakhs represent the amount of a grant to the Lahore municipal committee for drainage works which was invested, while about 3¼ lakhs were spent by the Simla municipal committee in connection with its Electricity Department. "Water-supply" accounted for an increase of Rs 65,000, and "Drainage" for an increase of Rs. 74,000. Expenditure on "Lighting" also rose by Rs. 34,000,

and on "Hospitals and Dispensaries" by Rs. 30,000. Under the head "Public Instruction" there was an increase of about Rs. 26,000 though Government contributions for educational objects were less by Rs. 19,000. The gross increase of funds allotted to education by municipal committees from their own resources was therefore Rs. 45,000, a satisfactory feature. In the Ambala and Jullundur Divisions, however, expenditure fell by Rs. 22,000 and Rs. 12,000, respectively.

352. The amount of Government contributions fell by about Rs. 20,000, but against this must be set the remission of various contributions previously payable to Government by municipalities amounting to about Rs. 95,000. Of the total Rs. 13,63,371, about 2½ lakhs were distributed by the Sanitary Board; over 5 lakhs were given to Simla; 2½ lakhs to Multán; and Rs. 1,42,000 to Dera Gházi Khan.

353. Three small notified areas and the municipality of Zira failed to close the year with the prescribed minimum balance.

354. During the year loans were made by Government to municipalities to the amount of Rs. 8,91,797, of which Amritsar received 4½ lakhs for its electrification scheme and Simla Rs. 2,75,000 and Rs. 1,46,797 for the extension of the hydro-electric scheme and in connection with the improvement scheme, respectively.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter will be found in the reports and statistical tables noted below :—

PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

Census.—Report on the Census of the Punjab, 1911, by Rai Bahadur Pandit Hari Kishan Kaul, C.I.E.

Births and Deaths.— *Sanitation.*— } Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Punjab and Proceedings of the Sanitary Boards for the year 1914.

Emigration.—Census Report as above.

Medical Relief— { Notes on the Annual Statements of the Dispensaries and Charitable Institutions of the Punjab for the year 1914.
Report of the Pasteur Institute, Kasauli, for the year 1914.
Report on the working of the Punjab Lunatic Asylum for the year 1914.

Vaccination.—Notes on Vaccination in the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

PUBLICATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Statistics of British India, Part V, Area, Population and Public Health.

47.—Details of Census.

[*Vide* pages 157-67 of the Administration Report for the year 1913-14.]

48.—Births and Deaths.

355. This year again an estimated population has been prepared by adding births and subtracting deaths, and calculated on this population the birth-rate for the Province amounts to 43·8 and the death-rate to 30·2 : these rates are 2·5 and 1·8, respectively, lower than the rates calculated on the census population.

356. The year 1914 like its two predecessors was a healthy one; the death-rate was low and only slightly in excess of that for the previous year, while the birth-rate was exceptionally high, the highest on record since 1899. Plague, however, caused a higher death-rate than in the two previous years, while small-pox accounted for much fewer deaths; the death-rate under other heads remained practically stationary and fevers showed a very slight increase compared with the previous year.

357. The birth-rate during the year under report which amounted to 46·3 is the highest on record since 1899 when it was 48·4; the total number of births amounted to 895,006, of which 468,243 were males and 426,763 females. These figures are much in excess of those for the previous few years and are due to the healthiness of the Province during the two preceding years and the early part of the year under review. Owing to the ravages of malaria among the child-bearing population in 1908, the birth-rate in the following year was extremely low, but ever since then there has been a steady increase in the birth-rate until now it has reached a figure which has not been exceeded since 1878 except once in 1899. This most satisfactory state of affairs is due no doubt to the absence of malaria in epidemic form. Births.

358. Compared with the quinquennial average there are only 6 districts which had a lower birth-rate during the year under review: these are Simla, Kangra, Jhelum, Rawalpindi, Attock and Muzaffargarh, and the decrease in no case amounts to more than 1·8 *per mille*, while for the total of the province there is an increase of 3·5. On the other hand

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

some districts show a very substantial increase, *e.g.*, Gurgaon 9 *per mille*, Montgomery 7·5, Rohtak 6·4, Ludhiana 6·3, and Ferozepore 6·1. In regard to these districts, which have a lower birth-rate than their quinquennial average, it may be remarked that their birth-rate last year was high and the decrease as compared to 1913-14 amounts to 3·8 in the case of Muzaffargarh, 3·6 in Attock, 2·2 in Simla and Jhelum, and 1·9 and 1·5 in Kangra and Rawalpindi, respectively. In three other districts also the birth-rate was lower than in the previous year, namely Rohtak, Gujranwala and Jhang: the reduction in Gujranwala, however, was very slight.

359. The excess of births over deaths amounted to 14·3 for the whole Province, but in individual districts the excess in some cases was very great, *e.g.*, 25·9 in Ferozepore and Lyallpur; in the others it varied from 21·2 in Lahore to 4·0 in Rawalpindi, when the least excess was recorded. Only two districts had a death-rate in excess of the birth-rate, but the excess was not great, 1·12 in Simla and 0·8 in Gujranwala. The conditions in Simla are different to those of districts in the plains and no explanation need be furnished for this slight difference, but in regard to Gujranwala it may be mentioned that the death-rate in this district was the highest on record, due chiefly to plague, the rate for which was 16·0 *per mille*, and it is only owing to the very high birth-rate that the excess was not greater. It must be remembered that a high birth-rate often leads to a high death-rate, as the deaths among young infants are always very high.

Deaths.

360. The total number of deaths during the year amounted to 618,073, of which 318,325 were males and 299,748 females, the total death-rate being 32·0 *per mille*. This rate is 1·8 in excess of that for the previous year and 0·9 in excess of the average for the previous five years. After two years of but slight prevalence, plague this year accounted for 64,010 deaths at a rate of 3·3; small-pox on the other hand accounted for much fewer deaths than in the three previous years: otherwise the death-rate for all the other diseases remained fairly constant.

361. The highest death-rate was recorded in Gujranwala 46·3, followed by 41·9 in Karnal, 37·3 in Gurgaon, 36·4 in Rohtak and Ambala, 36·0 in Amritsar and Gurdaspur, 34·5 in Ludhiana, 33·9 in Rawalpindi, 33·8 in Hoshiarpur, 33·1 in Sialkot and 32·7 in Jullundur. All these had a rate higher than the provincial rate, and in Gujranwala, Sialkot, Gurdaspur and Jullundur the rates were higher than those recorded in the previous year and also than their respective averages for the quinquennial period. Rohtak, Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana and Amritsar, on the other hand, showed an increase compared with the previous year, but a reduction as compared with their quinquennial average. Of the four remaining districts Gurgaon and Karnal show a reduction on both the previous year's figures and those for the quinquennium, while Rawalpindi shows an increase over the quinquennial average, but a reduction compared with the previous year: Ambala shews a reduction compared with the previous year only. The high rates in Gujranwala, Gurdaspur and Ludhiana were due to excessive rates from plague, and in Karnal, Rohtak, Ambala, Amritsar, Rawalpindi and Hoshiarpur to plague and fevers. In Gurgaon, Jullundur and Sialkot the death-rates from plague were above the provincial average.

362. The lowest rates were recorded in the districts of Simla, 20·8, Montgomery, 21·2, Dera Ghazi Khan, 21·3, Lyallpur, 24·8, Shahpur, 26·2, and in 11 others it ranged between 27·1 in Ferozepore to 31·7 in Hissar. In all these the rates were below those of the provincial total.

363. The highest death-rate this year occurred in May 3·21, December coming next with 3·02, September with 2·95, October 2·90, April 2·84 and November 2·80. With the exception of September, October and November, in which months only fevers were responsible for the high mortality, plague and fevers both combined to raise the death-rate in the other months mentioned above. In the remaining months of the year the death-rate varied from 2·11 in July to 2·57 in June.

364. The month of May always shows a rise in the death-rate. This in a non-plague year is due to fevers, April being a month in which mosquitoes are very active.

365. As usual infants under one year of age had the highest mortality amounting to 230·43 for males and 223·05 for females, figures for the previous year being 235·43 and 223·82, respectively. Calculated on the number of births during the year the rates work out at 208·98 and 211·38 for males and females, respectively. These are a great improvement on the rates for the previous year, showing a reduction of 8·63 in males and 4·75 in females.

366. Notwithstanding all the endeavours made to rectify the classification of deaths by classes, in Gujranwala and Attock the number of deaths recorded among "other classes" exceeded the population for that class this year. But this is not the only unsatisfactory feature in the statistics for the year under report, for in Sialkot the death-rate among "other classes" amounted to 396·30, in Dera Ghazi Khan to 333·33, in Muzaffargarh to 240·0 and in Lyallpur to 168·92. The Hindu and Muhammadan rates amounted to 31·95 and 31·94, respectively, while the rate for Native Christians was 32·51. The total provincial rate for other classes was 50·16, a satisfactory reduction compared with the previous year when it was 83·30, and it is hoped that the interest taken in the matter by the Sanitary Department will yet result in more accurate registration of deaths among this class of the population.

367. Cholera was rather more severely prevalent in 1914 than in the previous year. It caused 6,656 deaths, the death-rate being 0·34 as compared with 0·30 in 1913 and 0·13 in the quinquennium. Deaths from cholera were registered in 27 districts including 66 towns and 672 villages, the Lahore and Jullundur Divisions being most affected. The mortality was greatest in the Amritsar District where 1,288 deaths occurred, Lahore coming next with 788, Jullundur 750, Lyallpur 531, Hoshiarpur 499, Ferozepore 469, Ludhiana 390, Gurgaon 370, Kangra 347, Gurdaspur 312 and Sialkot 206: in no other district did the mortality amount to 200. Cholera.

368. The number of deaths from small-pox this year was 2,900 in all at a rate of 0·15 *per mille* which is the lowest on record since the introduction of the system of registration of deaths with the exception of the year 1910 when the rate of mortality under this head was exactly the same. It is 1·85 per 1,000 below the figures for the previous year and 0·68 below that of the quinquennial average. The decrease is doubtless due to the diminution of susceptible individuals owing to a great many of those who were not protected having died or having had themselves vaccinated during the long continuance of the epidemic from 1911 to the middle of the year 1913. Small-pox.

369. The average death-rate from small-pox for towns to which the provisions of the Vaccination Act have been extended was 0·13 *per mille* as compared with 1·21 in the previous year, while for those towns in which the Act is not in force it was 0·17 as against 2·13 in the previous year.

370. There were 73,627 deaths from plague in the Punjab during the year. The deaths were three times more than in 1913, twice more than in 1912 and not half as many as in 1910 and 1911. Plague.

371. There was no respite from the disease during the year as will be seen from the monthly death figures given below :—

Number of deaths from plague month by month during 1914.

January	1,640	July	221
February	3,602	August	231
March	10,257	September	246
April	21,358	October	676
May	18,862	November	3,260
June	4,075	December	9,199

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

372. The attitude of the people towards plague measures varies. When there is danger of infection, the people as a rule accept assistance and co-operate with the special medical staff. When there is no immediate danger of plague infection the people do not want to be worried with plague measures. In judging the attitude of the people we have to take into account the ability and energy of individual medical officers. Some officers on special duty do ten times more work than others. They work in harmony with the people smoothly and efficiently. The people do not want to die of plague and the object of the special medical staff is to prevent plague, so the staff and the people work together with the common object of preventing the disease : they are friendly allies fighting plague. A few officers on special duty are unable to enlist the sympathies of the people to any such extent. It is much easier to go from village to village and enter in a diary that "the people are adverse to all plague measures" than it is to overcome any prejudices that may exist and set to work to prevent the disease.

Fevers.

373. There were 345,501 deaths recorded under the head of "fevers" during the year under report. This was somewhat higher than it has been in the four previous years. The fever rate works out at 17·87 *per mille* as compared with 17·15 in the year preceding and 16·87 for the quinquennium.

49.—Emigration and Immigration.

374. There is nothing to report under this head.

50.—Medical Relief.

Institutions and patients.

375. There were 467 dispensaries in the Province at the close of the year 1914, against 466 in the previous year. During the year 14 were opened and 13 closed, while two private-aided institutions were taken over by the Gujranwala District Board.

There were 4,867,385 patients treated during 1914 in general local fund hospitals and dispensaries and purely female dispensaries compared with 4,591,177 in 1913, being an increase of 276,208. Of the total number treated, in-patients account for 88,774 and out-patients for 4,778,611, showing an increase of 3,576 in the case of the former and 272,632 in the case of the latter over the figures for the previous year.

Of the total number of in-patients 65,931 were returned as cured, 13,839 relieved, 5,535 discharged otherwise and 2,053 died. The ratio of deaths per cent. of total treated was 2·31 against 2·20 during 1913.

The total number of beds available was 4,289 (2,640 for males and 1,649 for females), a larger number by 158 than those maintained in the preceding year. Although, taken as a whole, the accommodation provided in the Province is far in excess of the average daily attendance, overcrowding is noticeable in all the hospitals where surgical work is done on a large scale.

Statistics of diseases.

376. The following abstract shows the most important diseases and conditions for which people attended dispensaries :—

Cholera	991
Dysentery	63,760
Enteric Fever	1,328
Malaria	639,160
Pneumonia	7,244
Rheumatic fever and Rheumatism	91,259
Tubercle of the lung	5,070
Other tubercular diseases	6,120
All other infective diseases	9,848
Anæmia	35,054
Diabetes	1,400

Scurvy	6,163
Diseases of the nervous system	92,232
Diseases of the eye	985,975
Diseases of nose	26,744
All diseases of the respiratory system except pneumonia and tubercle of the lung	274,679
Dyspepsia	201,577
Diarrhœa	51,704
Abscess of the liver	531
All other diseases of the liver	9,766
Bright's diseases	1,470
All other diseases of the urinary system	24,777
Other diseases of the generative system	45,283
Diseases of the organs of locomotion	21,637

377. During the year 260,775 operations were performed against 250,261 in 1913. The selected operations numbered 37,048 against 36,590 in the previous year. Of the patients operated on during the year 529 died, giving a death rate of ·20 per cent. compared with ·18 per cent. in 1913. Cataract operations numbered 14,919 and of the number of patients operated on 95·58 per cent. obtained good vision. Amritsar and Moga are the two places where most of these operations were performed. Operations for stone in the bladder accounted for 2,115 in 1914 compared with 2,273 in 1913 : the Multan and Dera Ghazi Khan Districts were responsible for the largest individual numbers. Surgery.

378. The total number of patients treated at State, Special and Railway dispensaries during the year was 561,387 compared with 500,157 in 1913. Police hospitals treated 6,137 in-door and 49,081 out-door patients, Canal dispensaries 241 in-door and 239,245 out-door and Railway dispensaries 1,247 in-door and 245,269 out-door patients. The throwing open of a greater number of Canal dispensaries to the general public is responsible for the rise in the number of patients treated during the year. Government dispensaries.

379. Private non-aided dispensaries treated 4,781 in-door and 84,577 out-door patients, but these figures do not correctly represent the extent to which medical relief is afforded by these institutions as many of these dispensaries do not submit returns. Private Institutions.

380. The income for the year amounted to Rs. 14,07,538 as against Rs. 13,12,926 in 1913. The increase is the result of enhanced contributions both from Government and local bodies. There is a slight fall in the amount of private subscriptions which is probably accounted for by the heavy calls upon the public for their assistance towards relief funds connected with the war : nonetheless a number of handsome donations have been given. Income.

381. The Mayo Hospital has continued to maintain its reputation and the attendance during 1914 was the highest on record. This record will no doubt be surpassed when the extensions in connection with the King Edward Memorial Scheme are completed. Mayo Hospital.

During the year accommodation was provided in the hospital for 50 sick and wounded officers and men of the Indian Army from Overseas as also in the civil hospitals at Karnal and Jullundur.

382. An encouraging feature in the year's work is the increase in the number of females seeking treatment. A number of local fund institutions have female Sub-Assistant Surgeons attached to them and it is hoped that as the facilities for the unsectarian training of all classes offered by the Punjab Medical School for Women, which is incorporated with the Women's Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, become known and local bodies endow scholarships for their own nomination in addition to those already provided by Government, more women will be available for the Females.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

staffs of Civil Hospitals as Sub-Assistant Surgeons, Compounders, Nurses and Dais. During the year the services of Dr. Balfour of the Women's Medical Service were lent to the Punjab Government to assist the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals in the inspection of female hospitals and the supervision of female medical education and training.

Punjab Lunatic Asylum.

383. During the year the number of inmates increased by 32, the total population being 991 (775 males and 216 females). The present Asylum was opened in 1900 and the inmates that year numbered 608 (487 males and 121 females). This increase in the Asylum population during the past fifteen years cannot be ascribed to any general increase of lunacy in the Province, as according to the Census figures of 1911 the ratio of insanes per 100,000 of population has decreased from 35 to 26 compared with the Census figures for 1901. The demand for admission has probably been stimulated by the provision of ample accommodation and the centralisation and specialisation of the treatment of lunatics which has greatly improved their lot and in no small measure to the care and sympathy bestowed upon them by the authorities in charge. The experiment of employing two non-commissioned officers of the Indian Army has proved a great success. There is also a European Warder to look after European patients. The increase in the number of female admissions is particularly gratifying when it is considered that the majority of Indians have a conservative dislike to admit their womenfolk for treatment in any public institution and particularly in an asylum. The percentage of cures continues satisfactory.

The total annual cost of the Asylum was Rs. 1,79,229.

51.—Sanitation.

Sanitary Board.

384. The Sanitary Board met five times during the year, twice in Lahore and three times in Simla.

Grants.

385. As the balance of the annual grant of Rs. 1,50,000 for the previous year was only Rs. 929-8-0, the Sanitary Board applied to Government for further funds to be placed at their disposal for distribution to municipalities till the commencement of the next financial year, as a large number of sanitary schemes were pending with the Board for grants-in-aid. The Government placed at the disposal of the Sanitary Board a further sum of Rs. 50,000 for distribution to municipalities, and from this sum and the balance of the previous grant, grants-in-aid were made between 1st January and 31st March 1914 and a balance of Rs. 85-8-0, which remained unexpended at the end of the financial year, lapsed.

The year 1914 was a notable one in the history of the Sanitary Board, Punjab. The annual grant was enhanced from a lakh-and-a-half to seven lakhs-and-a-half, but for circumstances which rendered a reduction in this amount necessary and a consequent withdrawal of Rs 3,75,000, the Sanitary Board would have been able to dispose of the entire grant.

The grant of 7½ lakhs consisted of the following grants:—

	Rs.
Urban grant	3,00,000
Rural grant	2,50,000
Grant for unforeseen large schemes	2,00,000
Total ...	7,50,000

Urban sanitation.

386. Out of the urban grant of three lakhs placed at the disposal of the Sanitary Board, Punjab, during the year 1914-15 grants were made up to 31st December 1914, leaving a balance of Rs. 82,209 which will be accounted for in the next year's report.

A grant-in-aid of Rs. 2,700 was originally made for experimental works, but the Sanitary Engineer refunded Rs. 2,100 at the end of the year.

Rural sanitation.

387. Out of the grant of two-and-a-half lakhs for rural sanitation placed at the disposal of the Sanitary Board, Punjab, during the year 1914-15, grants were made up to 31st December 1914, leaving a balance of Rs. 2,40,436 which will be accounted for in next year's report. The Board had estimated that it could not spend more than Rs. 75,000 during the current financial year.

Miscellaneous.

388. The grant of two lakhs for unforeseen large schemes placed at the disposal of the Sanitary Board, Punjab, during the year under report was withdrawn. A request was made to finance the Dera Ghazi Khan water-supply extension scheme from this grant, but as it was not accepted a portion of the cost was financed from the urban grant to start the work.

In addition to the grants made by the Board during the year 1914, the following schemes received grants from Government to the extent of the amount noted against each :—

	Rs.
Lahore storm water outfall drainage	16,359
Ferozepore intra-mural drainage	12,000
Multan drainage	1,00,000
Multan water-works	1,50,000
Bhera drainage	33,500

The grant of Rs. 7,114 for the Nawankot drainage and pavement recommended to Government last year was refused by the Board this year, as neither the villagers nor the district board would agree to finance half the cost of the scheme which under the circumstances had to be abandoned. The Nurpur (Kangra District) water-supply scheme was abandoned by the order of the Government as the notified area was unable to finance half the cost locally and the grant-in-aid of Rs. 6,000 allotted in 1906 was withdrawn and refunded to Government.

Growth of Sanitary Board's powers.

389. It may be said without exaggeration that the year has been one of special activity and interest and that the demands made on the Board have steadily increased in number and importance. Government has recognised the necessity of meeting these demands and has increased the annual grant from a lakh-and-a-half to seven-and-a-half lakhs. The people are now more enlightened and are beginning to recognise the necessity of sanitation, and the Government has therefore extended the functions of the Board by authorising it to accord administrative sanction to all sanitary schemes, the cost of which does not exceed one lakh, and has also authorised the Board to allot grants-in-aid to schemes of rural sanitation without reference to Government. The question of utilizing Voluntary Sanitary Associations to help the Board chiefly in connection with the improvement of rural sanitation in the province is under the consideration of Government. Government has also ruled that grants-in-aid sanctioned should be allotted to the municipality or district board concerned irrespective of the agency to be employed in carrying out the work.

Utilisation of refuse and sewage.

390. The income derived from the sale of street sweepings in municipal towns during the year amounted to Rs. 1,40,520, showing an increase of Rs. 18,074 over last year's income. The largest sums were realized in Lahore, Amritsar, Sialkot and Gujranwala.

In the principal towns there were 1,748·38 acres of land under sewage irrigation and Rs. 33,489 were realized for its use during, the year, showing an increase of 229·43 acres in the land thus irrigated and Rs. 6,968 in the amount realized.

Although rewards were offered by the Gurgaon, Ambala and Ludhiana District Boards as usual, no effort was made by any village community to earn it.

In the Gujranwala District sanads signed by the Deputy Commissioner were granted to 15 zaildars and sufedposhes who did good work in respect of village sanitation.

Fairs. 391. Owing to rain on the 6th and 7th April, the gathering at the fairs at "Choa Saidan Shah and Katas" in the Jhelum District was not as large as last year. It is estimated that only about 20,000 persons attended at Choa and about 12,000 to 16,000 persons at Katas. The fair at the former place was held on the 9th and at the latter on the 13th. Adequate sanitary arrangements were made, and the Additional Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Punjab, was detailed to supervise them. There was no case of contagious or infectious disease, but a case of suicide was reported.

The attendance at the Sun Eclipse Fair held at Thanesar on the 21st August was not as large as was expected, the attendance being about 130,600 compared with that of 262,000 in October 1911. Cholera was present in the province, and the issue of railway tickets to persons attending the fair from infected areas was prohibited. Pilgrims arriving by train and the main roads were medically inspected and those found obviously ill were not allowed to enter the fair area. The Civil Surgeon, Karnal, was in charge of the medical and sanitary arrangements and the Sanitary Commissioner supervised the sanitary arrangements which were very satisfactory.

The Gullu Shah Fair in the Sialkot District commenced on 2nd October and lasted for ten days. Wells were cleaned out and treated with permanganate of potassium a short time before the fair was held, and a number of tube wells were provided for drinking water for those in the fair area. The medical and sanitary arrangements were placed in charge of an Assistant Surgeon, one compounder and four vaccinators. No case of unusual sickness was reported to have occurred.

A meeting was held on the 10th October at "Nankana Sahib" to consider the arrangements to be made at the fair. The meeting was attended by the Additional Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, Punjab, and rules were framed for the management of the fair. The fair was held on 2nd November, and Lieutenant-Colonel S. Browning Smith, I.M.S., the Sanitary Commissioner, Punjab, paid a short visit to the fair, to see that the rules framed were actually observed. No unusual sickness or accident of any kind was reported to have taken place.

The supervision of the sanitary arrangements at the "Baba Farid Fair" held at Pakpattan on the 24th and 25th November was as usual entrusted to the Additional Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, who arrived at the place on the 21st idem. The fair passed off without any accident owing to the elaborate arrangements made by the Civil and Police authorities.

52.—Vaccination.

392. The number of operations performed by all establishments in 1914-15 was 836,639 as compared with 887,469 in the previous year. Of the total number of operations 671,261 were primary and 165,378 re-vaccination as against 671,183 and 216,286 in the year preceding, an increase of 78 operations in the case of primary and a decrease of 50,908 in that of re-vaccination, which is manifestly due to the increased demand for the same in the previous year on account of the great prevalence of small-pox.

393. Of the total number of primary operations 642,778 were performed by the district staff, 23,328 by the special staff, 3,775 by cantonment vaccinators and 1,380 at dispensaries with a percentage of success of 97·15, 96·25, 99·08 and 97·07, respectively. The people on the whole are well disposed towards primary vaccination, but it is still a matter of difficulty to persuade parents during years when there is very little small-pox to have their girls revaccinated. The percentage of males to total number of re-vaccinations was 68·55, while in the case of females it was 31·45 or 50 per cent. of the former.

394. In 1914-15 the cost of the department amounted to Rs. 1,46,947, an increase of Rs. 13,216 on the previous year. This has been mainly due to the pay and travelling allowance of the Additional Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, increase in the pay of the District Vaccination Staff, their horse and travelling allowances, and contingent charges of the Punjab Vaccine Institute, Lahore, the outturn of which is greatly increasing. During the year the contributions towards the pay of Divisional Inspectors previously levied from district and municipal funds have been remitted by Government and are now paid from Provincial revenues.

395. The average cost of each successful vaccination was Re. 0-3-3 as compared with Re. 0-2-10 in the previous year. If, however, the sum of Rs. 21,974, which has been credited to Government on account of the cost of vaccine sold, is deducted from the total expenditure, the average cost works out to Re. 0-2-9 for the year under report as compared with Re. 0-2-4 in the preceding year. The increase in the cost of a successful case is due partly to the increase in the number of successful re-vaccination and partly for the reasons given in the preceding paragraph.

396. Seventy-nine per cent. of the total number of children under one year of age available for vaccination were protected against small-pox in the towns in which the Vaccination Act is in force as compared with 67 per cent. in those towns in which it is not compulsory. The corresponding figures for 1913-14 were 78 and 69.

397. The work done in Native States, which maintain their own establishment, was as follows :—

Patiala 49,608 primary and 28,172 re-vaccinations with a percentage of success of 98·63 in the former and 73·18 in the latter; Bahawalpur 14,169 and 103 with a percentage of 93·67 and 53·19; Kapurthala 3,675 and 179 with a percentage of 99·62 and 65·92. In Jind and Nabha 10,294 and 324 primary operations were performed with a percentage of success of 96·56 and 85·08. In Faridkot 4,703 primary and 20 re-vaccinations were performed with percentage of success of 99·31 and 42·86 respectively.

398. The institute supplied vaccine lymph to Civil Surgeons throughout the Province, to Native States in the Punjab, to the North-West Frontier Province, Jammu and Kashmir States, and Military Medical Officers, etc. The total number of tubes issued was 31,726 as compared with 33,329 last year. Punjab Vaccine Institute, Lahore.

In addition to this the Vaccine Institute supplied 10,000 capillary tubes to the Military authorities for use out of India.

Out of 31,726 tubes issued during 1914-15 results were received in the case of 30,022 tubes, showing that 980,906 primary and 199,514 re-vaccinations were performed with an insertion success 96·10 per cent. in primary and 63·44 per cent. in re-vaccination as against 95·17 and 69·01 respectively in the previous year.

PASTEUR INSTITUTE.

399. Year after year there has been an increase in the number of patients treated in the Institute. The year 1914 was no exception to the rule, the number rising from 3,984 in 1913 to 4,585. There is no evidence, however, that rabies is on the increase in India, the results

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICE.

indicated above being due to greater dissemination of knowledge of the efficacy of the treatment. Of the 4,585 persons treated 4,124 were Indians and 461 Europeans. Of these, 53 persons died; the percentage of failures, *i. e.*, of deaths more than 15 days after the patient's discharge, was only 0·57. The year's experience confirms the views already held as to the value of cauterisation. During 1914 a fourth row of quarters for indigent patients was completed: accommodation for this class of patient is, however, still insufficient. The rabies hospital will shortly be ready for occupation.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

Detailed information on the subjects dealt with in this Chapter will be found in the report and statistical tables noted below :—

PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

Education.—(1) Report on the Progress of Education in the Punjab for the year 1914-15.

(2) Report on the Operations of the Department of Agriculture, Punjab, for the year ending June 30th, 1915.

(3) Annual Report of the Punjab Veterinary College and of the Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab, for the year 1914-15.

Arts and Sciences.—Report on the working of the Lahore Museum for the year 1914-15.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Education, Literature and Press.—Statistics of British India, Part III, Educational.

53.—General system of Public Instruction.

[*Vide* pages 173—184 of the Administration Report for 1911-12.]

54.—Education.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

400. The year 1914-15, though not marked by any outstanding educational developments, showed a satisfactory increase in the number of scholastic institutions and of pupils under instruction. At the same time the rate of progress in the provision of new hostels and school buildings was more than maintained, over 450 buildings having been constructed or been under construction during the year, and the capital expenditure on education having exceeded that of 1913-14 by seven lakhs. General.

401. There was an increase in the number of educational institutions in the Province of 526, but the attendance only rose by 15 thousand as compared with 34 thousand in the preceding year. A cause for this is suggested under the head of Secondary education. The percentage of school attendance of the estimated total population of school-going age has risen from 22·7 to 23·11 in the case of boys and from 4·76 to 4·81 in the case of girls. Institutions.

402. The total expenditure on education rose by nearly 14 lakhs to a little more than a crore and seven lakhs. Of this sum fees and private sources (*i.e.* subscriptions and donations) contributed one-third, provincial revenues rather less than a third (34 lakhs), Imperial revenues 7½ lakhs and Local Funds 29½ lakhs. Expenditure.

403. The sanction of the Secretary of State was received to the appointment of an Assistant Director of Public Instruction and five additional Inspectors, three in the Indian Educational Service and two in the Provincial Service. It is intended to post two Inspectors in each Division, one being in the Imperial and one in the Provincial Service. Two of the Indian Educational posts were filled by the transfer of officers from Sanawar and the Government College, Lahore, their places being taken by recruits sent out by the Secretary of State from England. It was impossible, however, to proceed further with the scheme for the new Inspectorate owing to the difficulties of recruitment caused by the war. Staff.

404. The total expenditure of District Boards on education rose from 22 to 24½ lakhs, out of which 12 lakhs were spent on the maintenance of primary schools and 7 lakhs as last year on school buildings. District Local Bodies.

Boards had, however, estimated for an expenditure of 34 lakhs on education (exclusive of Government grants), so that a sum of 8 lakhs remained unspent from their educational budgets. Municipalities increased their expenditure on education from 4½ to 5¼ lakhs, but they have done little for primary education. The different denominational agencies continued to evince great keenness in education, but their activities are largely directed to the multiplication of Anglo-Vernacular Schools. On the other hand some very good new buildings and hostels were erected for ill-housed schools.

PRIMARY EDUCATION.

405. The steady annual increase in the number of primary schools continues. There were 394 such schools opened during the year, of which 238 were Board Schools. The attendance rose by over 8 thousand.

The total expenditure on primary schools amounted to Rs. 13,58,000, an increase of 1¾ lakhs over the figures of last year, the major portion of the increase being due to enhanced Government grants.

Teachers.

406. The introduction of graded services for elementary teachers under District Boards continues, and there are few Boards now who have not adopted some such scheme. These services usually contain posts ranging from Rs. 12 to Rs. 30, a scale of pay which should, and indeed is, proving decidedly attractive to the students of Vernacular Middle Schools.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

High and Middle Schools.

407. The number of secondary schools increased by 35 to 379 and the number of pupils from 97,570 to 101,584. Of these 35 newly recognised schools 14 were High Schools, 7 Anglo-Vernacular Middle, and 14 Vernacular Middle. The Jullundur Division, with three High and eight Middle Schools, easily heads the list in the matter of new Anglo-Vernacular institutions. It is open to grave doubt whether much of the money spent in opening new secondary schools might not have been more profitably spent in setting existing institutions on a more satisfactory basis. If one community, for example the Sikhs, opens an Anglo-Vernacular school in a town of moderate size, it appears to be regarded as almost a matter of honour for the members of other communities in that town to set to work to found rival denominational institutions, whether there is any real demand for them or not.

408. It is for this reason that the increase in the number of secondary schools has not been followed by any proportionate increase in the number of scholars. In many cases the new schools do not tap any new educational source, but simply draw off scholars from existing institutions. Had the money, which has been spent by a community on founding a weak local High School, been directed towards strengthening the endowment and providing additional hostel accommodation at the nearest established High School building to the sect, the needs of the community for denominational education would have been far more efficiently met. The evils resulting from the multiplication of these inefficient institutions under weak control, to which allusion was made in last year's report, have been even more marked during the year under review. Nor can it be claimed that the work of the High Schools has increased in efficiency. The lack of any aim save the passing of as many boys as possible at an external examination, in the hope that they will thereby obtain Government appointments, vitiates the whole High School course.

School Final Examination.

409. A proposal to institute a School Final Examination was instituted towards the close of the year and was under discussion by the Local Government and the University. The effect of such an examination which would emphasise the importance of ordinary school work, thus minimising the importance of the final examination, and would at the same time allow for a wider differentiation of courses in High Schools should produce a marked improvement in the conditions of secondary education.

Collegiate Education.

410. The number of Collegiate institutions remained the same as in 1913-14, but the attendance at them further increased by 338 to 3,514. The expenditure rose slightly, the major portion of the increase being covered by the additional income from fees. Institutions.

The Government College staff was strengthened by the addition of a Professorship in Persian. The new physics laboratory attached to this institution is under construction, while considerable improvements have been made in the chemical laboratory and the departments of Zoology and Botany.

411. Extensions of affiliation were granted to various colleges in particular subjects, and grants were made by the University for various college libraries. Affiliation.

412. The rush of students for admission into the Lahore Colleges at the beginning of the session is now becoming a serious problem, especially in view of the limited hostel accommodation. Accommodation.

Training Institutions.

413. The competition for admission into the Central Training College shows no sign of abatement, and is a satisfactory indication that in the Punjab the value of training in the work of a secondary school teacher has obtained general recognition. Definite steps were taken towards the opening of a junior Training College at Jullundur which will relieve some of the pressure. Central Training College.

414. The number of Normal Schools increased to seven, a new school of this class being opened at Karnal. The work of these schools is supplemented by training classes which are opened by District Boards and attached to Vernacular Middle schools. The course in these institutions lasts for nine months. There were 17 of them in existence at the close of the year, and though the training in them cannot of course compare in thoroughness with that given in a Normal School, they yet fill a temporary need created by the sudden demand for qualified teachers for the newly opened primary schools. Normal Schools.

The Normal School for Women showed a further increase of pupils from 64 to 92; and may fairly claim to have established its reputation. Qualified teachers who have been through the course are enabled to obtain very satisfactory salaries in aided institutions.

415. For the first time the number of applicants for admission to the European Training Class, Sanawar, exceeded the number of vacancies; and the class contained 20 students at the close of the year. The building in which it is housed and taught is unsuitable, and the question of a new building is now being considered. European Training Class.

Professional and Technical Education.

416. The reorganisation of the courses at the Agricultural College and the lowering of the cost of the agricultural course appears to have had the desired effect by considerably increasing the number of applicants for admission. Considerable additions and extensions were made to the building. Agricultural College.

417. The Law College was transferred to the western portion of the old Convent purchased by the University. There was a slight increase in the number of students attending this institution and the Medical College. There was a considerable fall in the number of pupils attending the Medical School, owing to the names of 90 military students being struck off the rolls for insubordination. Female students will in future attend the Women's Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, with which is incorporated the Punjab Medical School for Women. Law and Medicine.

418. Classes in cotton-printing and polishing were added to the Mayo School of Art, which now lacks only book binding to complete the original scheme. The opening of this section has been unavoidably postponed Mayo School of Art.

owing to the impossibility of obtaining the machines from England. Workshop hours have been lengthened to eight hours a day and a works overseer appointed in order that the students may work as far as possible under actual commercial conditions.

Industrial Schools.

419. The number of industrial schools in the Province has risen from 24 to 28 with 2,540 pupils. These institutions however need careful remodelling if they are really to fulfil the function for which they have been founded.

EDUCATION FOR INDIAN WOMEN.

Girls' Schools.

420. There was again a large increase in the number of girls' schools which rose from 830 to 919 with two thousand additional pupils, the majority of whom represent admissions into the lower primary classes.

Thirty-nine of the new schools were opened by local agencies and 44 were private aided schools. The housing conditions of girls' schools, especially in municipalities, still leave much to be desired. There is naturally a dearth of qualified teachers, but the growing number of students at the Normal School for Women gives reason for hope.

There is an increasing demand for Anglo-Vernacular education for girls, but a great dearth of teachers qualified to meet it.

The number of appearances and passes at the Middle Examination is almost the same as in 1913-14.

EDUCATION OF EUROPEANS.

421. One additional school was opened at Bahawalnagar and the total attendance rose to over 2,700 pupils.

Various liberal building grants were made by Government to aided institutions, and a new building was commenced for the Lawrence School, Ghora Gali. On the whole the European schools may be said to be satisfactorily housed, though they are some of them deficient in equipment.

The cadet movement, which has always flourished in the boys' schools in the hills, proved its value on the outbreak of the war. A large number of *ex*-pupils have joined the army in all branches and grades. The Lawrence Military Asylum was able to send a contingent of boys and masters as a complete unit.

MUHAMMADAN EDUCATION.

422. While there is a fair increase in the number of Muhammadans attending primary schools, there has been unfortunately an actual decrease in the number attending Anglo-Vernacular secondary schools. No satisfactory explanation of this phenomenon has been given.

There has been, on the other hand, a remarkable rise amounting to 12 per cent. in the number of Muhammadan girls who attend school. The community also continues supplying the majority of the students at the Veterinary College, the Mayo School of Art and industrial institutions.

The Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam after collecting the opinion of the leading Muhammadan societies and individuals on the question of Muhammadan education in the Province embodied them in a memorandum to Government which is still under consideration.

AITCHISON COLLEGE.

Chiefs' College.

423. The college had 110 students on its rolls at the close of the year, which under existing circumstances is the maximum number for which it can properly provide. Of the eight boys presented for the diploma examination, five passed, three of these with honours. The remaining three passed in the aggregate though failing in one or two qualifying subjects. The annual competition with the Mayo College, Ajmere, resulted in a close contest, in which the Aitchison College regained the challenge shield. The inspection report on the college was generally satisfactory.

Several *ex*-students of the college are now serving their Emperor in Europe and East Africa.

55.—Literature and the Press.

LITERATURE.

424. The total number of publications brought on the catalogue has risen from 1,642 to 2,221, the highest on record. The increase is due, as stated last year, to measures taken to insure a regular supply of books for registration by the managers of printing presses. Books registered.

One hundred and fifteen copyrights were registered during the year, but the practice of registering copyrights, which lingered in spite of the new Copyright Act, has now been entirely stopped.

Of the 2,221 works, 1,575 were original, 479 republications and 167 translations. Urdu with 964 works has regained its leading position, Punjabi comes next followed by English. All vernaculars excepting Sindhi have a larger representation than last year.

425. The volume of verse grows in bulk every year, the total number of poetical works this year reaching the high figure of 624. But works of real merit are as yet rare: men with a certain facility for verse-making use it as a convenient medium for advice on matters social, moral and economical. After poetry religion forms the subject of the largest number of publications. There is a noticeable increase in the number of commentaries and translations of sacred books brought out with a view to satisfying the growing spirit of enquiry. It must, however, be admitted that the controversial tendencies displayed in literature of this class show no signs of abatement. The increase under Biography is noteworthy. The novel is being employed increasingly to expose social evils. History for the most part is confined to school books, but includes three or four books of real merit. The headings of Art and Travel continue to be poorly represented, but there is a rise of 47 per cent. in the number of books which treat of Medicine. Under this head are found works on Veterinary Materia Medica and Therapeutics and Vaidak and Yunani books of the type of Moore's Family Medicine. To sum up, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of publications during the year; but it can hardly be said that this has been accompanied by a corresponding improvement in literary quality. Subjects treated.

THE PRESS

426. The total number of newspapers and periodicals of all kinds published in the Punjab and the North-West Frontier Province during the whole or part of the year under report was 275 as compared with 232 in the year 1913. This is the highest figure ever recorded, the previous highest being 253 in 1909, the year preceding the passing of the Press Act. In the above number are included 85 papers started during the year and 49 which ceased publication during the same period. The following table shows the detailed figures for the two provinces:— Newspapers.

	Existing at the beginning of year.	Came into existence during the year.	Ceased to exist during the year.	Existing at the end of the year.	Net increase.
Punjab	189	83	48	224	35
North-West Frontier Province ...	1	2	1	2	1
Total ...	190	85	49	226	36

Of the 275 newspapers and periodicals which were in existence during the whole or part of the year 175 were published in Urdu, 54 in English, 29 in Gurmukhi, 13 in Hindi, 2 in Roman Urdu, 1 in Urdu-Pashtu

and 1 in Urdu-Hindi. The number of daily papers was 26, while weekly and monthly publications numbered 85 and 126 respectively. Other papers appeared at irregular intervals. Of the 26 daily papers 5 were in English and the remaining 21 in the vernacular, 10 of the latter representing the Hindu community, 5 the Muhammadan, 5 the Sikh and 1 being neutral.

Of the 272 Punjab newspapers 166 were published in Lahore and 31 in Amritsar. Other centres were Simla (13), Rawalpindi (11), Qadian (8), Ludhiana (6), Jullundur (5), Ferozepore, Gujranwala and Montgomery (3 each), Sialkot and the Native States of Patiala, Kapurthala and Maler Kotla (2 each), and 15 other localities (one each). The 3 North-West Frontier Province papers were all published in Peshawar.

Circulation.

427. It is impossible to obtain accurate statistics of the circulation of newspapers, and allowance must be made for the tendency of publishers to exaggerate the circulation of their organs. The average circulation of all papers was as far as can be ascertained about 308,000, as compared with 320,000 in 1913 and 280,000 in 1912. If an average of *six months'* publication be allowed for every paper which came into existence or ceased to exist during the year, the average circulation of each paper works out at about 1,450 copies. The following figures show the ascertained circulation of the more important publications :—

	Copies.
English.	
**Bulletin* (Hindu)	3,246
**Tribune* (Hindu)	2,446
†*Panjabee* (Hindu)	1,801
‖*Khalsa Advocate* (Sikh)	850
‡*Observer* (Muhammadan)	800
Vernacular.	
‖*Hindustan* (Hindu)	12,900
**Zamindar* (Muhammadan)	8,210
‖*Paisa Akhbar* (Muhammadan)	7,749
‖*Himala* (Hindu)	5,650
**Desh* (Hindu)	3,904
‖*Parkash* (Hindu)	3,445
‖*Khalsa Samachar* (Sikh)	3,270
‡*Vakil* (Muhammadan)	2,887
‖*Arya Gazette* (Hindu)	2,155
‖*Akhbar-i-Am* (Hindu)	2,000
‖*Rajput Gazette* (Hindu)	1,620
**Watan* (Muhammadan)	1,357
‖*Shahid* (Sikh)	1,000

NOTE—* denotes daily. † denotes tri-weekly. ‡ denotes bi-weekly. ‖ denotes weekly.

The war was responsible for a large extension of newspaper circulation towards the end of the year.

Executive action.

428. The total number of declarations under sections 4 and 5 of Act XXV of 1867 filed during the year was 206. Security demanded under the provisions of Act I of 1910 ranged from Rs. 500 to Rs. 3,000. Demands of security resulted in the closing down of two existing presses and prevented the opening of 17 new ones. Three newspapers ceased publication and six failed to come into existence from the same cause.

The security of three presses, the *Zamindar* Press, Lahore, the Khalsa Press, Lyallpur, and the *Loyal Gazette* Press, Lahore, were forfeited during the year under report. Warnings were administered at the request of the Local Government to the publishers of 14 newspapers,—*viz.*, the *Kashmiri Magazine*, the *Sufi*, the *Afghan*, the *Observer*, the *Shauq*, the *Azzia*, the *Tribune*, the *Akhbar-i-Am*, the *Arya Patrika*, the *Parkash*, the *Prabhat*, the *Bir*, the *Panth Sewak* and the *Khalsa Akhbar*—in connection with articles open to objection on various grounds.

One paper, the *Panjabi Surma*, was warned for failure to comply with the provisions of section 3 of Act XXV of 1867.

429. Foreign affairs did not excite any great interest during the early part of the year. Foreign affairs.

From August to the end of the year the war formed almost the only subject of discussion in the press. It was at once resolved that all controversial subjects must be held in abeyance and England assured of the loyalty of India. This enthusiasm was still further accentuated by the decision to employ Indian troops in Europe. The general attitude of the press in its comments on the war may thus be said to have been on the whole satisfactory, though the tendency of certain newspapers to add to their circulation by the publication of sensational rumours necessitated the taking of action under the Press Act in several cases.

430. Colonial affairs did not occupy the attention of the press to the same extent as during the previous year. A section of the Sikh press attempted to stir up public interest in the unfortunate enterprise undertaken by Gurdit Singh in order to test the validity of the Canadian immigration laws, but the attempt met with no real success, and the outbreak of war finally put a stop to the whole discussion. Colonial affairs.

431. A strong movement was set on foot during the year towards effecting a compromise between the two great communities, and the questions of *jhatka* meat and the slaughter of kine were largely ignored by the leading papers. The lesser newspapers of both parties at the same time made it fully evident that no compromise on these questions was possible. The publication of a book, the *Khalsa Panth ki Haqiqat*, led to a new controversy between the Aryas and the Sikhs on the question of *niyog*. Even the war failed to divert attention from the subject, and official warnings were found necessary in order to put a stop to the obscene writing to which the controversy had led. Domestic affairs.

432. The Contempt Bill was the only piece of new legislation which came under severe criticism during the year under report. The outbreak of war put a stop to legislation of a controversial nature. The executive orders which then became necessary were on the whole well received as being unavoidable in a state of war, though it was claimed that the loyalty shown by all classes in India did away with any real necessity for them. Legislation.

433. The strike among the students of the Lahore Medical College, though admitted to be regrettable from the point of view of discipline, gave rise to some criticism of the educational policy of Government. The Hindu University scheme and the question of official control were also widely discussed. Education.

434. The Public Services Commission, the distribution of honours and the composition of the Secretary of State's Council also formed subjects of discussion in the press. Miscellaneous.

56.—Literary Societies.

(*Vide* pages 196-197 of the Administration Report for the year 1911-12.

57.—Arts and Sciences.

THE LAHORE MUSEUM.

435. Although there was a slight decrease in the number of visitors to the Museum, the average attendance amounted to over 1,000 persons daily. Students continued to take advantage of the day reserved for them every week. The new gallery required to accommodate Sir Aurel Stein's collection of Central Asian antiquities was completed in the

course of the year, and a new library office and record room have also been added to the buildings. The work of cataloguing the exhibits at the Museum was continued. The catalogue of Indian Paintings was completed by Mr. S. N. Gupta, and progress was made with the catalogue of Buddhist sculptures, which has been undertaken by Mr. H. Hargreaves.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

Detailed information on the subject of this chapter will be found in the annual progress reports of the Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, Lahore, and of the Superintendent, Muhammadan and British Monuments, Northern Circle, Agra, for the year ending 31st March 1915; also in the Administration Report of the Buildings and Roads Branch, Public Works Department, Punjab, for the year 1914-15.

58.—Archæology.

Hindu and Buddhist Monuments.

436. In the year under review Rs. 8,122-6-4 were expended on Hindu and Buddhist Monuments in the Punjab, the greater portion on annual repairs, but special repairs were carried out at the Gauri Shankar Temples at Dasal and Nagar and at the Baijnath Temple, Baijnath, Kangra District. A *pucca* hut has been erected over the rock inscription at Pathyar and similar protection afforded for the two well-known inscriptions at Kanyara.

437. The most important new work was that undertaken at the rock-cut temple, Masrur, to which a reference was made in the last report. New quarters for the *pujari* have been erected clear of the site and excavation of a portion of the eastern face has been completed as well as part of the underpinning. The amount of *débris* to be removed has been greater than was anticipated, but the extent of the remains disclosed has been equally unexpected. The niches in the various shrines have been found still to contain images of Siva, Surya and Indra, while many fine architectural fragments and other detached images have also been recovered. Clearance on the north-east reveals very severe fracture of the rock and the most that can be done is to preserve the displaced masses in their present position, a work which may prove of some difficulty but one not likely to be beyond the resources of the Public Works Officers who are carrying out the work. Operations are still in progress but should be completed shortly.

438. Proposals for the conservation of the Manikyala Tope have been submitted and approved. The suggested conservation is not extensive and is confined to replacing certain missing portions of the berm and dome to ensure the preservation of the structure, and no attempt will be made to restore details as in 1891. The immediate surroundings of the monument will receive attention and provision has been made for the adequate drainage of the site.

439. An inspection of the Harappa mounds in the Montgomery District resulted in the acquisition of a small but interesting collection of ancient pottery, and certain objects containing several of the unidentified characters which form one of the special interests of this site.

Muhammadan and British Monuments.

440. Rupees 50,895-9-11 were spent in the Punjab under this head in 1914-15, the buildings principally concerned being at Lahore. The road in front of Shalamar Gardens has been metalled and trees planted along the side, but only half the projected work was carried out during the year. A *kachcha* track has been made leading from the Lahore-Amritsar road to Ali Mardan Khan's tomb, Lahore, which seems likely to be enclosed shortly by the boundary wall of the North-Western Railway. The improved lay-out of the Hazuri Bagh, Lahore, with its new channels and fountains, has necessitated special arrangements for drainage and Rs. 1,150 have been expended on this work.

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